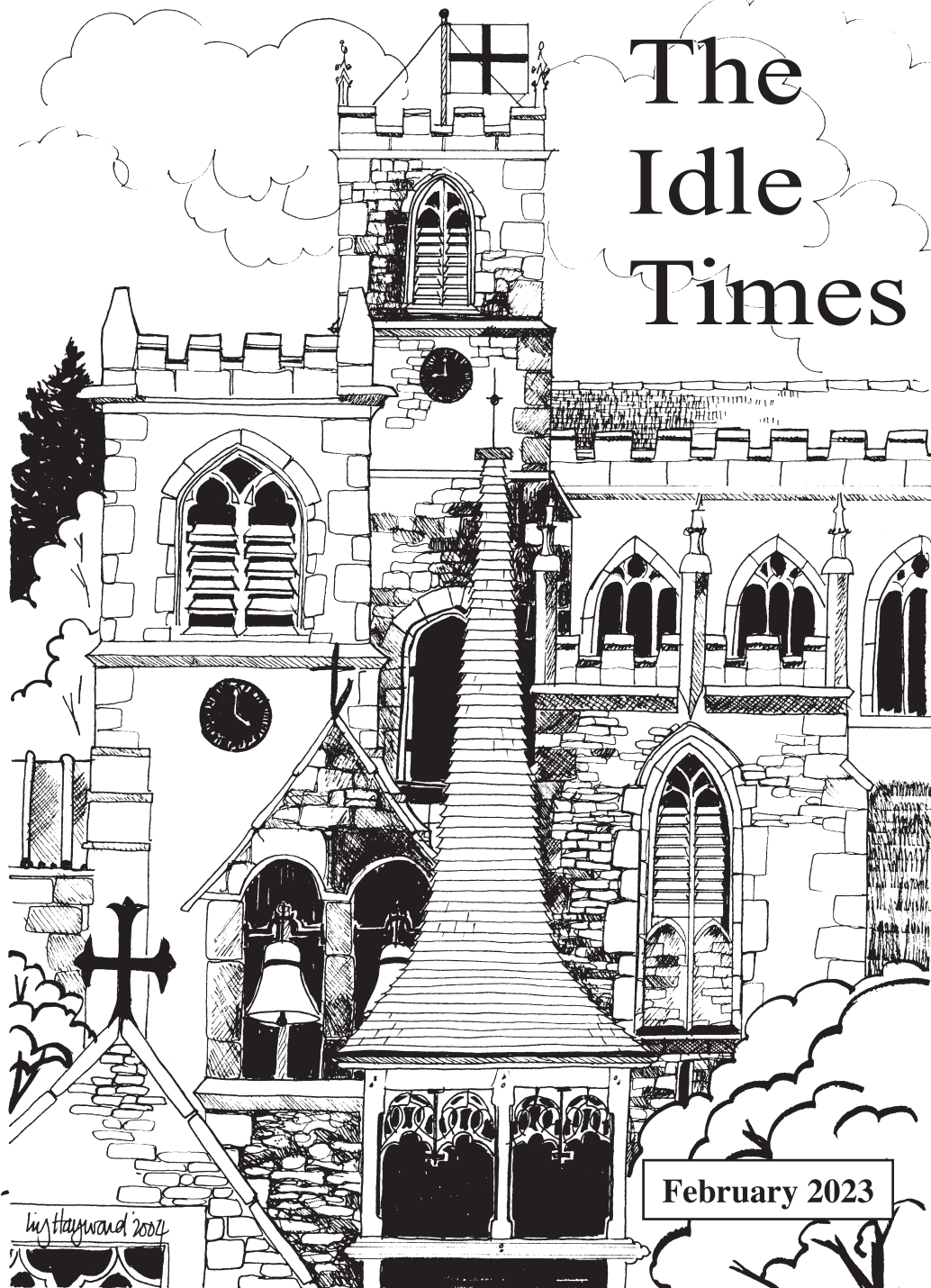


# The Idle Times



February 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 February

<i>February</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Venue</i>
<b>Sunday 5</b>	9.00am	Holy Communion	<b>Scofton</b>
	9.30am	Family Service	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	11.00am	Morning Worship	<b>Babworth</b>
<b>Sunday 12</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion	<b>West Drayton</b>
	9.30am	Family Service	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	11.00am	Matins	<b>Babworth</b>
	6.30pm	Evening Service	<b>Eaton &amp; Gamston</b>
<b>Sunday 19</b>	9.30am	Worship for All	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	11.00am	Holy Communion	<b>Babworth</b>
	11.00am	Family Service	<b>Elkesley</b>
<b>Wednesday 22</b> <b>Ash</b> <b>Wednesday</b>	6.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service	<b>Eaton &amp; Gamston</b>
<b>Sunday 26</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion	<b>Bothamsall</b>
	9.30am	Songs of Praise	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>West Drayton</b>
	11.00am	Songs of Praise	<b>Babworth</b>

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

#### Renew:

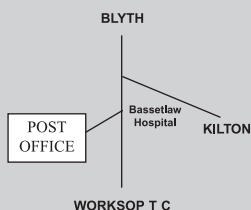
- Your 10 year photo licence (we take your photo)
- Your car tax
- Your adult passport without getting pictures or filling in forms

#### 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 March 2023 edition of *The Idle Times* to **Francis Waite**, preferably by email to [fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk) by 21st February 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 Council**

**Notes from the meeting held on Thursday 12th January 2023 at Gamston School.**

### **Meeting**

The meeting began with the usual formalities and the minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as being correct.

### **Highways**

District and County Councillor Ogle attended the meeting but was unable to offer any updates on outstanding issues in the Parish. He was asked how best to escalate issues which the Parish Council are not getting responses for and said that individual complaints are taken seriously and that so long as things are recorded, everything will get dealt with eventually. He explained however, that the Council might want to send any outstanding issues to the Complaints Department at Notts County Council. The Clerk will write to the Complaints Department to complain and ask for further advice on the service level agreements for response times to emails and times it takes Via Ltd to action the matters raised.

Members of the public are advised to report any new Highways issues (faulty street lights/ overgrown hedges & trees/ pavement, road & drainage issues etc.) in the first instance, through the 'My Notts' app or online at [www.Nottinghamshire.gov.uk](http://www.Nottinghamshire.gov.uk)

If no action is taken then they should then bring it to the Parish Council meeting for escalation.

Likewise, any District Council issues (Fly tipping/ broken or missing street nameplates/ dog fouling etc.) should be reported to Bassetlaw District Council at [www.bassetlaw.gov.uk](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk) If no action is taken then it should again be brought to the Parish Council meeting for escalation.

### **Finance**

Payments were approved and a discussion was held regarding a grant request from the Idle Times. The previous contribution of £330 has remained the same for many years and the magazine which is produced and delivered by volunteers, has escalating costs. The Parish Council want to support the Idle Times as it is an essential method of communication within the parishes and it was decided that a contribution of £400 would be made for this year.

The 2023/2024 budget was approved and it was agreed that it would be necessary to increase the precept in order to meet the required amount. This has not been raised for well over a decade and is far behind inflation. In order to determine the increase required, the members used guidance from the National Association of Local Councils. They also studied the

National average band D precept amounts for Parish Councils, the Bassetlaw local Parish Council amounts and data regards the precept at Gamston for the past 20 years. Inflation was also taken into account. As a result, a decision was made to increase the precept to £13,896 (£4.66 per month for a Band D property), which is still well below the national average. This is an actual increase of £2.47 per month for a Band D property. In return for this, the Parish Council is planning to make a transformational change by way of improvements within the villages that will be visible to all. One of which is joining the Notts County Council Lengthsman scheme, which allows for the Lengthsman to undertake various tasks around the Parishes and thereby improving the appearance of the five villages for the benefit of the community.

### **Planning**

- 22/01633/OUT Land to the South of Ordsall, Ollerton Rd, Ordsall, Retford.

Outline application with some matters reserved (approval being sought for access) for residential development, a local centre, school, community hub, sports pitches, extra care facility, community park, landscaping, supporting infrastructure and means of access.

Due to the impact and problems this would cause in our Parish, predominantly it would exacerbate the ongoing highways issues through Eaton, the council strongly objected to this application.

Please note that all applications, both current and historic can be viewed by accessing the following: <https://publicaccess.bassetlaw.gov.uk/online-applications> where you can also opt to receive automatic notification by email when new plans are uploaded.

### **The Lengthsman Scheme**

The Lengthsman will start on the 1st February and will work 6 hours per week across the villages. The council members discussed which tasks would be required in each village and which will take priority. Expect more news on this role in the future.

As these are notes from the meeting, please visit our website at [www.gamstonwestdraytoneatonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.gamstonwestdraytoneatonparishcouncil.co.uk) where the minutes of the meeting provide more detail, or alternatively speak to one of the Parish Councillors.

There is no meeting in February and so the next meeting will be held at 6.30pm on Thursday 16th March 2023 at Gamston School.

Please contact the Clerk, Ed Knox with any matters you wish to raise at

*clerk.gamston@outlook.com*

## **NOTES FROM THE ELKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

Councillor Skelton chaired the meeting & started off by welcoming everyone present & then gave his monthly report. He told members that PC Gareth Mitchell is back on duty. The speeding, nuisance drivers & overweight vehicles operations are still ongoing. Councillors again donated 29 hours of their own time to village work during the month on various tasks. He also gave thanks to the Clerk, Wendy Davies, for all the work she does behind the scenes.

During the public session the following items were raised:

The Chairman of the Memorial Hall told the Council that they were holding open meeting on 25 January with the villagers to ask what requirements they would like for the upcoming Coronation festivities

There are still vacancies for Trustees. If anyone is interested, please contact the Memorial Hall.

The bar is now in use and can be used for private parties.

It would be nice to be able to use it as a 'village pub' occasionally, but more helpers are needed for this to take place.

It is hoped to hold a Jazz evening during the Summer.

Councillor Kevin Dukes has been in contact with a villager regarding the quad bike issue in the woods. This is really a County Council issue, but he is happy liaise with the County Councillor, Nigel Turner, to see if things can be done to stop it. The state of the river was also mentioned along with the flooding in the wood. The Environment Agency are working with Bassetlaw regarding flooding in the area to try and alleviate it.

The Bassetlaw District Local Plan public consultation is still ongoing. Kevin also said he was standing down as the District Council in May having been the Councillor for 8 years. Kevin still stays as Chairman of the Bassetlaw Foodbank for another couple of years. The Chairman and members thanked him for all his hard work & wished him well for the future.

An alternative to having a real Christmas tree was discussed. It was agreed that it would be better for the environment & it would reduced the yearly cost significantly if the Parish Council purchased one similar to that at Van Dykes Hotel. It will pay for itself in the first year allowing the Council in subsequent years to purchase other decorations for other parts of the village. This is going to be purchased now whilst on special offer. Tuxford Young Farmers are to be contacted & asked to remove this year's tree from near the shop.

The budget for 2023 – 24 was discussed. An increase of 6% was agreed. This amounts to an increase of 33p per month based on Band D. £3.91 per year.

An updated planning application for Manor Farm was discussed. There are 2 plots. On one where the house is, the other where the proposal is for 4 properties and 4 garages. After discussion it was decided that the Parish Council should make observations regarding the location of the garages and the mature trees on site. It was also felt that with the cost of living crisis perhaps as part of the planning procedure solar panels should be a consideration.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 21 February 2023. Elkesley Memorial Hall 7.00 p.m.



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

Happy New Year to you all from the children and families of Gamston CofE (Aided) Primary School.

We have had a very busy and exciting start to 2023!

We're delighted that we have had new ovens installed in our school kitchen. Children were incredibly patient whilst the ovens were being fitted. Now that the new ovens are in place, our school chef Kim will be planning some fantastic lunch time events where we will be able to invite parents/carers to eat with the children. Keep an eye out for these on the school newsletter in the coming months!

Children in Tyndale Class had a fantastic time, learning all about Asia on their 'Asia Launch Day Event'. The children tried a range of Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Indian foods as well making their own sushi rolls. They also made Chinese style fans, tried Japanese maths techniques and had a go at some Indian dance moves.

Another visit from Rev Craig Hunt saw our year 5 and 6 children visit St Peter's to learn all about Baptism. Rev Hunt walked the children through a Baptism service where we tried on the clerical robes, sung songs, recited the liturgical worship and discovered what it means to be welcomed into the family of God.

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

## Life @ St. Peter's

Life at St. Peter's in Gamston has sprung back to life with a bang since re-opening in September of last year and even more so at the start of 2023 with daily opening to members of the public.

A massive thanks has to go to the Friends of St. Peter's and the wider village who have supported our numerous events.

In review the 'Foodie Fridays' have been extremely well supported with over 30 village residents enjoying conversation over some great food and drink. More Foodie Fridays are planned and the dates for 2023 are below.

The Christmas Craft Fayre was a great success with over £500 raised to aid future use of the church building. A date is now being considered for 2023 so watch this space for more details.

We welcomed the children from our village primary school on two occasions. Firstly, for their Harvest service with The Rev'd Kate Bottley and then at the end of term Christmas service with The Rev'd Ruben Crossley. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Looking forward, below are the dates for some events we hope to offer in 2023...



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

Join us for on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of  
alternating months from 7pm in:

<b>February</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>June</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>December</b>

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



## Gamston Book Exchange

There are now a selection of books in St. Peter's. Please feel free to come along to purchase (for a small donation) or exchange them with any book you have to donate.

There are a variety of authors, fiction and non fiction titles including children story and education books.

All money raise will go towards providing more facilities for village use of the church.

.....

## 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)

---

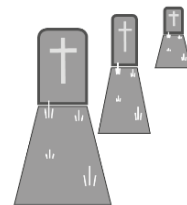
## Churchyard Tidying in Gamston

### In 2023 we will again gather once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday from 10am

We have made fabulous progress over the past 2 years but there is more to do!

So join us on:

18 <sup>th</sup> February	15 <sup>th</sup> July
18 <sup>th</sup> March	19 <sup>th</sup> August
15 <sup>th</sup> April	16 <sup>th</sup> September
20 <sup>th</sup> May	21 <sup>st</sup> October
17 <sup>th</sup> June	18 <sup>th</sup> November



For more information contact Adrian on 07941 353 415 or [idleandsands@gmail.com](mailto:idleandsands@gmail.com)

## Elkesley School News

Wow! What a fantastic start to 2023! Our Chestnut class started the year with a visit from Partake! In the morning the children looked at various artefacts from tombs and discussed the daily lives of people from different stages in the hierarchy of ancient Egypt. The final part of the morning involved dressing a child as an ancient Egyptian pharaoh! In the afternoon, the children all got dressed up and took part in an ancient Egyptian burial ceremony - the children thoroughly enjoyed this and they acted their roles brilliantly. We'd like to thank Partake theatre for the excellent day!

We have also had a visit from the dogs trust who taught the children about safe behaviour around dogs from their Be Dog Smart programme which aims to harness safe, loving relationships between children and the dogs they share their lives and social settings with.

A big thank you also to sensory wonder who hosted a session for younger children from the local area and enabled them to explore the interactive bubble tube, fibre optics, roller shakers and other captivating equipment.

Our baking club has been a hit so far with apple doughnuts and pizzas! We look forward every week to seeing what new creations they have! Our Key Stage 2 Street dance has also been a hit and we have been really impressed by the moves we have seen!

Our high-quality music provision continues to produce some fantastic final pieces; with our music room boasting two drum kits, whole-class sets of guitars and ukuleles, a piano, keyboard and various other instruments! Our music teacher provides a full session of music per class every week, along with 1:1 and small group music tuition. And we will be finishing the half term with two music concerts! One concert to celebrate individual pieces and one whole-school concert showcasing the work of each class. We cannot wait for young voices too! Our children are practicing weekly for their big performance at the motor point arena in Sheffield! We look forward to seeing you there if you have tickets for the sell-out event!

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Webster, who has recently retired, for everything that she has done for our school and the children within. We all wish her a very happy retirement.

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/>

## Bothamsall Coffee Morning

Saturday 18 February 10.30am to noon in the Village Hall

Please come and join us for a drink, cake and natter! Proceeds will be put towards a new notice board for the church. Donations of cake from home bakers will be gratefully received.

.....

## Pothole Repairs

Elkesley annual road & pavement inspection recently took place, repairs should now have been carried out, but if you know of a pothole, crack, uneven spot, please let Bassetlaw Highways know on **01909 533533**.

.....


## Formula 1 Drivers Come To Gamston Village

Over the past few months, myself and three other friends have been competing in an online E-Sports league for Formula 1 racing. We have been competing as two teams and we have gone on to win numerous trophies with our racing.

We are all from Gamston and love the village. Our team is:

Richard Ogle - Haas Driver  
Edward Bacon - Haas Driver  
Matt Williams - Red Bull Driver  
Alistair Bacon - Red Bull Driver

Thanks for your time. We are still continuing to race and hope to win more trophies in the upcoming months.



*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.*

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**
- **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**

