

## Celebrate Easter at St Michaels Ravenstone, Christ Church London Road Coalville, St Peters Bardon



### **Palm Sunday - 13th April:**

10am at Christ Church, 11am at St Michaels & St Peters.

### **Holy Week - 14th - 17th April:**

Christ Church open all day for prayer.

### **Maunday Thursday - 17th April:**

Bring and Share Supper, 6pm at Christ Church.\*

### **Good Friday - 18th April:**

Hour at the Cross, 2pm at all three Churches. Fish and Chip Supper and Easter Film, 6pm at Christ Church\*

### **Easter Sunday Services - 20th April:**

10am at all three Churches followed by a joint Easter Egg hunt and refreshments at Christ Church.

\*Book on [www.tinyurl.com/easter-2025](http://www.tinyurl.com/easter-2025)

## Tennis Court Fencing

Work will start shortly on replacing the old chain-link fencing round the tennis court with approved and modern sports fencing specially tailored to provide a safe and secure environment. The work will take approximately one week, so the court will be out of use during that time. As well as enhancing the visual impact of the new court surface installed last year, it will also increase its security through a locked gate booking system to prevent misuse and vandalism experienced when an open system was tried for a few weeks last year. The fencing and the new tennis court surface have been made possible by grants, careful budgeting and hard work by the parish council after three years of planning. The parish councils aim is to get as many people as possible, young and old, to enjoy their local sport facilities, so please enjoy a game of tennis with friends and family using this new sporting opportunity.



## North West Leicestershire District Council

**Telephone:** 01530 454545

**Website:** [nwleics.gov.uk](http://nwleics.gov.uk)

### **Councillor Nigel Smith**

[nigel.smith@nwleicestershire.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.smith@nwleicestershire.gov.uk)

**01530 835668**

## Ravenstone with Snibston Parish Council

### **Chair - Sheila Lunn**

[s.lunn@ravenstonewithsnibstonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:s.lunn@ravenstonewithsnibstonparishcouncil.org.uk)

**01530 813323**

### **Vice Chair - Andrew Hamilton-Jordan**

[a.hamilton-jordan@ravenstonewithsnibstonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:a.hamilton-jordan@ravenstonewithsnibstonparishcouncil.org.uk)

### **Vice Chair - Angela Bexton**

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**07742 367924**

### **Councillor- Lee Mackenzie**

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**07538 100496**

### **Councillor - David Lunn**

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**07518 151681**

### **Councillor - Ann Parrans-Watkins**

[a.parrans-watkins@ravenstonewithsnibstonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:a.parrans-watkins@ravenstonewithsnibstonparishcouncil.org.uk)

## Remembrance Tommy

Our village remembrance tommy on the Green will be replaced and relocated to a more prominent position. His replacement is necessary due to its damage and repositioning in front of the Green will mean more people walking and driving past will see him. The work will be done just before the summer flowerbed planting



## Leicestershire County Council

**Telephone:** 0116 2323232

**Website:** [www.leicestershire.gov.uk](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk)

### **Councillor Craig Smith**

[Craig.Smith@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Craig.Smith@leics.gov.uk)

**07519 359660**

### **Councillor Dan Harrison**

[Dan.Harrison@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Dan.Harrison@leics.gov.uk)

**01530 563372 / 07833 254779**

Councillors at all levels are elected to represent their communities and residents so do not hesitate in contacting them. At district and county levels most enquires will be dealt with by local government officers who have a duty to ensure local services are provided.

Both our District and County Councillors attend some of our meetings and remain in close contact with the Parish Council. As a body we hope to be an asset to you all by being approachable, supportive, diligent and wise in our judgements and actions. We are keen to hear your wishes and views and will do our best to keep Ravenstone a happy and caring community.

# Quarterly Newsletter



## The Parish Council a brief view

### **Who they are and what they do**

There are seven Parish Councillors and a Parish Clerk who are bound to a strict code of conduct. They must act in a manner that is consistent with principles to achieve best value for residents and to maintain public confidence showing, selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. The Parish Council generally meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Pavilion, Ravenslea starting at 7pm, notices advising the public are placed around the Village on the noticeboards. The meetings always follow a strict agenda, one of the items being Public Forum [10 minutes] - members of the public are invited to address the council in respect of business itemised on the agenda.

### **Parish council responsibilities**

Parish councils have a variety of powers and duties, all of which impact directly on the community, some more common ones being, allotments, dog fouling and litter bins, litter, playgrounds, sports and recreation, village green, flower beds, tree care and general Spending - a limited amount of money on anything they deem of benefit to the community.

### **Parish Council Funding**

The funding or 'precept' for the Council is part of the Council Tax collected by North West Leicestershire District Council from which the Parish Council receives a small amount of money for each person in the village. In the past few years. The council have also secured additional funds through grants from outside sources. Detailed financial information, budget, statement of accounts and external audit can be found on the parish website.

### **Planning Applications**

The Parish councils receive details of applications and are consulted on them. They can submit their views (taking into account parishioners' views), but the District Council primarily look to the parish to provide local insight and may not follow the parish's view. The public should send comments to both the Parish and District Council within any deadline period. The Parish Clerk's contact details can be found on the website. You can voice your concerns to them on any planning matter.

### **Access to information**

The Parish Council aim to publish as much information as possible online, so for access and full details please visit the website at Ravenstone with Snibston Parish Council

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## Proposed community library

A group of five trustees have got together with a view to providing a community library and community space open during the day in Ravenstone. Although we have a thriving Village Hall and the Pavilion these are not available generally during the day. It is hoped that the proposed project will be complimentary to the Village Hall and Pavillion and that it will prove to be a valuable asset to the village. The Parish Council are fully supportive of the initiative and a site has been secured adjacent to Ravenstone Pavillion. A feasibility study carried out by OGS Capital Ltd and grant funded by North West Leicestershire District Council has proved positive. A planning application will be submitted in the near future. The project is in the process of being registered as a charity. It is envisaged that when the scheme is up and running it will be staffed by volunteers from the village. If you would be interested in giving a couple of hours a week of your time or if you would like a copy of the feasibility study, for more information or to register your interest as a potential volunteer please contact **Steve Smith at [stelaine2@aol.com](mailto:stelaine2@aol.com)**



## The WOW Project

At the January Mingle event at the Village Hall the WOW team introduced themselves to those present. Annika, one of the team, asked to reach the whole community and her message is below.

### Promoting Health, Warmth, and Wellbeing in Rural Communities:

The WOW (Warm, Optimistic and Well) Project, funded by Cadent, is dedicated to supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals in rural Leicestershire and Rutland to stay warm, stay well, and improve their overall wellbeing. Through a range of outreach activities, the project aims to empower communities by offering practical support in the face of rising energy costs and the ongoing cost of living crisis. Our team travels across rural areas, setting up welcoming spaces where people can gather, connect, and learn creative ways to stay warm, save money, and boost their physical, mental, and social health. Whether you're seeking advice on lowering energy bills, looking for carbon monoxide safety tips, or simply in need of a warm space, we offer something for everyone. We can sign you up for the Priority Services Register, assess whether you're better off on a water meter, and provide guidance on energy-saving cooking methods. We also host creative sessions, including making draft excluders, growing your own vegetables, and decorating reusable tote bags.

As energy costs continue to rise, keeping homes warm and safe has become increasingly difficult. The WOW Project works to help rural households move away from fuel poverty and towards affordable warmth. We engage with

communities to raise awareness of the risks associated with fuel poverty, including its negative impact on both physical and mental health. Living in cold or damp conditions can lead to serious health issues, such as respiratory diseases, heart problems, and poor mental health. The risk of carbon monoxide poisoning also increases when heating and cooking appliances are used improperly or poorly maintained. Many households are also forced to choose between heating and eating, which exacerbates both physical and emotional stress.

The WOW Project provides practical solutions to help families stay warm, healthy, and safe. We offer tips on budget-friendly, healthy eating, and how to use energy-efficient appliances like slow cookers to save both money and energy. We also provide vital information on carbon monoxide safety, ensuring homes are secure and protected. By bringing people together in a supportive environment, the WOW Project is building stronger, more resilient communities across rural Leicestershire and Rutland. We are dedicated to improving the wellbeing of individuals while helping them navigate the challenges of rising living costs.

**Annika Bradford,**  
**WOW Community Connector & Keyworker**  
**ebradford@ruralcc.org.uk**  
**07858 818390**



## Potholes

According to the RAC, there are currently more than one million potholes in the UK, Leicestershire having its fair share. The formation of potholes is a multi-step process that involves the interaction of environmental and mechanical factors. Initially, the road surface may develop minor cracks due to the wear and tear from vehicular traffic, exposure to the elements, and the quality and age of the road surface. However, water is a primary culprit in this process. When it rains or snows, water seeps into small cracks. During the winter months, this water freezes and expands, exerting pressure on the surrounding asphalt and creating a void. This void becomes more pronounced as the freeze-thaw cycle continues. Each time the water freezes and expands, it forces the asphalt to crack and break apart, and each time it



thaws, it melts and drains away, leaving behind hollow spaces which weakens the surface, making it more susceptible to damage under the pressure of passing vehicles. The continuous repetition of this freeze-thaw cycle eventually leads to the formation of a pothole. The severity of the damage is often proportional to the frequency and intensity of these freeze-thaw cycles. These potholes can enlarge and deepen, becoming significant safety hazards for vehicles and pedestrians alike.

**To report a pothole within or approaching the village can be reported on line by going to Leicestershire County Council report a road problem, scroll down to potholes and enter the details,**

- Location, street/road name or postcode
- Location on a map
- Details of the problem

According to the LCC's statistics around 50 repairs are being carried out each month, so there may be a wait but the problem will be rectified.

## Street sign replacement

Three street signs have been reported as needing replacement in the village. Main Street opposite the end of Church Lane, which is unreadable, Hospital Lane at the junction of Ashby Road which is bent and unsightly and the Ashby Road sign opposite the entrance to Ravenslea, which is at an angle. Sign replacement is only carried out periodically by the District Council so look forward to some new shiny signs sometime over the Summer.

## Traffic Calming Update

The 30mph "dragon's teeth" road markings have made a noticeable reduction in the speed of many vehicles entering the village. However, the Police Road Safety visit at the beginning of March found that 20% of motorists observed were exceeding the speed limit. (Disappointingly, a number of people took to social media to complain that this was just another "bash the motorist" activity by the Police.)



Additional Speed Limit signs on posts and on road surfaces for Church Lane, Main Street, Ashby Road and Leicester Road are under discussion.

Concern has been expressed that children on their way to and from Woodstone School on foot have no safe place to cross the Leicester Road, made more dangerous, since we no longer have a School Crossing Attendant. (The lack of visibility of the road from the pathways on the Village Green has also been highlighted.) We are examining various options, including a 20mph zone at School times, for consideration by Parishioners.

## Leicestershire Police Neighbourhood Link

Neighbourhood Link is a free, e-mail messaging service for people who live and work in Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland.



It's managed by Leicestershire Police and used by partner organisations such as Action Fraud and Neighbourhood Watch. You are in complete control of the information and messaging you receive, and you can change these settings at any time. Our communities play a crucial part in helping us prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour. By signing up to Neighbourhood Link, you'll receive email alerts about crime in your area, witness appeals, general policing activity and any scams you should be aware of. Receiving messages from a trusted source allows you to share reliable messages with friends and family in your local area to help keep them safe too.

Signing up to Neighbourhood Link is free, quick and simple. You'll be able to choose what you want to receive email alerts about and how often. It's easy to use and you'll only receive messages about topics that you've selected. You can change your preferences or decide to stop receiving messages at any time. We welcome your comments. By clicking on the 'reply' link within the message you can send a reply to the person who sent the message. Please be aware, you should not report crime in this way. Report crimes or by calling 101, always call 999 in an emergency. All emails are read and appropriately actioned. Please be aware that sometimes we will not reply, for example, if we receive information that you would simply like to pass on to us for our attention. You may not hear from us directly, however, please be assured that everything you send us is reviewed. Go to the home page below for all the details and the registering process

<https://www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk>

## St. George's Day Spectacular in Ravenstone



Last year's St. George's Day Tug of War

Get ready for an unforgettable St. George's Day celebration on the 26th and 27th of April on Ravenstone's village green! This action-packed weekend is bursting with live entertainment, delicious food, and family fun—you won't want to miss it!

### Saturday 26th April

As the sun sets, the party begins! Live music and a disco will have you dancing into the night, with a fully stocked bar to keep the drinks flowing. Plus, mouth-watering food vans will be serving up tasty treats to keep your energy high.

### Sunday 27th April (12-4 PM)

The fun continues with a bustling market, fantastic live acts, and exciting attractions for the kids.

Whether you're shopping, enjoying the entertainment, or relaxing with a drink from the bar, there's something for everyone. And with food vans on-site, you'll have plenty of delicious options to enjoy throughout the day.

This is Ravenstone's biggest St. George's celebration yet, so gather your family and friends, and come be part of the fun! Mark your calendars—you won't want to miss it!

## Grove of Remembrance and Reflection dedication

A group of villagers met with the Reverend Geoff Pinnington to dedicate the Grove of Remembrance and Reflection on the Village Green on the 18th March. During the short service Geoff spoke of the beautiful and tranquil setting for the Grove, which was built round the Covid memorial bench and that it provided a place where people can spend a while to remember those who are no longer



with us or just to sit and enjoy the view across the Village Green. The installation by the Parish Council was made possible through a District Council grant and trees, also provided by the District Council, will be planted shortly.