

Summer at Holme Pierrepont Country Park

Holme Pierrepont Country Park is gearing up for a busy summer season, with a variety of events and activities taking place across the site. While these events bring plenty of excitement, they may also affect access and parking, so visitors are encouraged to plan ahead.

Two major events are expected to draw larger crowds: the Triathlon Relays on the 30th August and the BDA Dragon Boats between the 20th – 21st September. These dates may see increased footfall and limited parking throughout the park.

Throughout the summer holidays, the Outdoor Adventure Zone, Lagoon, and Rapids will be open daily, offering a wide range of activities suitable for families, friends, and groups. From archery and mini golf to white water rafting and tubing, there's something for everyone.

For further information, please visit www.nwscnotts.com or contact the team on **0115 982 1212**.

Glass recycling

A new kerbside recycling scheme for glass is set to launch later this year.

Rushcliffe Borough Council will introduce smaller grey bins with purple tops from autumn 2025, with collections beginning in December. These bins will be emptied every six weeks, on the same day as the current grey bin.



Glass will be collected as mixed glass and automatically sorted by colour at the recycling plant. Accepted items include clean, empty glass bottles (any colour, with or without tops and labels), food jars, drink bottles, toiletry jars, and similar containers.

Residents who do not have space for an additional bin can, for now, continue to use local bottle banks. Locations can be found by visiting www.recyclenow.com.

Hire Gamston Village Hall

An ideal venue for Party Events and Celebrations!

- Well-equipped kitchen facilities
- Indoor tables & chairs available
- Enclosed Village Green Area

Please contact Rebecca on **07786 141066** or bookings@hpgpc.org.uk

Subject to terms and conditions

Holme Lane closure update

It has now been four months since the permanent closure of the unmade section of Holme Lane in Holme Pierrepont was reported in the Spring Newsletter.

The closure, although clearly signposted at both ends, initially came as a surprise to many who had grown accustomed to using the lane as a convenient cut-through. However, it soon became clear that the restriction was permanent, and the number of vehicles needing to turn back has since declined. Satellite navigation systems have gradually been updated to reflect the change.



There were some early issues with the gate access system, as the original keypads proved insufficiently durable, especially after repeated incidents of vandalism. Following several repair attempts, Via has replaced the keypads with locks and chains as a temporary measure while working towards a longer-term solution.

Residents and landowners who rely on the lane have faced some challenges, but Via has responded promptly to support requests, helping to ease what might have been a difficult transition.

Overall, the closure has led to a notable reduction in vehicular traffic and a welcome rise in leisure use. Walkers and cyclists, especially families with children, have expressed enthusiastic support for the safer and more pleasant environment the lane now offers.

Doggie business

In 2022, Rushcliffe Borough Council introduced new powers through a borough-wide Dog Control Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). Following public consultation, these powers have been extended for an additional three years, with the new order taking effect on the 8th July 2025.

Dog owners in the borough, including those in the parish, are required to carry a bag or other means to pick up dog waste after their pets, or they may face a £100 fine. There are designated dog bins in the parish for disposing of the waste bags.

Additionally, dogs are prohibited from entering all children's play areas that are either fenced or enclosed. Therefore, please do not take dogs into the Ambleside Play Park.

parishNEWS



Holme Pierrepont &
Gamston Parish Council
Newsletter

Summer 2025

A few words from the Vice Chair

Welcome to the Summer 2025 edition of the Holme Pierrepont and Gamston Parish Council Newsletter.

The schools have now broken up, and we are busy preparing for the Summer Play Day. This year, it's a festival theme with 'Gamstonbury' taking place at Ambleside Park on the afternoon of Wednesday 20th August. We have organised plenty to keep the children entertained, so if you are looking for a fun, family-friendly event, please come along.

On the 8th May, we commemorated the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day. In the parish, bellringers gathered at St Edmund's Church in Holme Pierrepont to recreate the joyful peals heard in 1945, whilst at Gamston Village Hall the VE Day flag was proudly displayed on the front of the building. Unfortunately, due to issues with the halyard system, the flagpole is currently out of action, but we do hope to resolve this soon.

For more information about what is happening in the parish, please read on.

Cynthia Stacey

A big thank you!

The parish council would like to thank Allan Nightingale, a resident of Gamston Village, who has been quietly taking care of the red phone box next to the village green.

Allan has regularly swept the floor and cleaned off graffiti, and more recently, he tackled a much bigger job by replacing six old Perspex panels with proper shatterproof glass.

The cost of the glass was covered by the council, but Allan generously carried out the work himself, donating his time and skills to the project.

The phone box has had a new purpose since 2015, when local resident Pauline Lumley transformed it into a mini museum. Pauline researched Gamston's history and created a display of photos, maps, and stories that offer a glimpse into village life through the years.

Thanks to Allan's efforts, the phone box continues to be well cared for and appreciated.



Cleaning up Skylarks

Great Big Green Week is the UK's largest celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. Each year, individuals, organisations, and businesses across the country, come together to promote sustainability and make a positive impact in their local areas.

On Friday 13th June, the Roadgas team took part in a litter pick to support this year's national campaign for sustainable practices in the workplace. Proud of the area in which they live and work, the team spent the morning helping to clean up the beautiful Skylarks Nature Reserve at Holme Pierrepont, followed by a well-earned breakfast at their lovely local, the Daleside Café.



Roadgas, based in Colwick, designs, builds and installs infrastructure to dispense bioLNG and bioCNG into HGV fleets, helping the transport and logistics sector to decarbonise by reducing their carbon emissions.

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Visit us on Facebook



Grantham Canal Society

The Grantham Canal Society (GCS) has some exciting news to announce.

After a five-year search for a suitable site at the western end of the canal, a location was finally identified last year beside the canal at Morrisons in Gamston. Following months of legal work and planning applications, GCS is now ready to proceed with the purchase and delivery of a shipping container. This will be used to store essential tools and, just as importantly, tea and coffee making facilities. For the first time in 228 years, there will be a base at this end of the canal, with work expected to begin in the autumn.

Until now, many potential volunteers have been put off by the journey along the A52 to the depot. With a new local base, that is about to change. Initial plans include Wednesday work parties, with the possibility of weekend sessions if there is interest from those in full-time employment. Work will focus on the canal east of the A46 through to Lady Bay.

No experience is necessary. All that is needed is a love of the outdoors and a willingness to contribute whatever time you can. Volunteers will have the chance to learn new skills and make new friends. To get involved, please email volunteer@granthamcanal.org.

The GCS would like to say a huge thank you to Morrisons, who are generously providing the land at no cost, as well as offering support in many other ways.

VE Day 80

Church bells rang out across Nottinghamshire on Thursday 8th May, as more than 50 churches took part in nationwide celebrations marking the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

The peals began at 6.30pm, echoing the moment in 1945 when bells were rung after years of wartime silence. During the Second World War, church bells had been silenced and reserved solely as a warning of invasion.

Bellringers from neighbouring villages gathered at St Edmund's Church in Holme Pierrepont to ring out a joyful peal, before continuing on to other local churches.

At Gamston Village Hall, the VE Day flag was proudly displayed on the front of the building.



Pierrepont Gamston Primary School

The parish council recently asked Claire Bills, Headteacher at Pierrepont Gamston Primary School, to share an update on the highlights of the last summer term.

"I am excited to share what a fantastic summer term we have had at Pierrepont Gamston. The sunshine certainly lifted spirits, and it was a joy to see the school buzzing with excitement and energy once again.

I would like to take this opportunity to give a big shout-out to Mr Middleton and Mr Crawshaw for their dedication to our girls' and boys' football teams. Their hard work and commitment brought not only success but also immense pride to our school. A huge well done to the girls, who finished top of the league!

Our school production of *Matilda* was absolutely fantastic, with the children singing with such joy about how 'Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty!' It was a real celebration of their skills and talents. We're going to miss this very special Year 6 cohort so much!

On Friday 13th June, we held our biannual Culture Day, a wonderful celebration of the rich diversity within our school community. Each class explored a different country, and we

were incredibly grateful to the parents who generously took the time to share their stories, traditions, and experiences. This year, the children had the thrilling opportunity to taste a variety of traditional dishes, which truly added a delicious new dimension to the day. The celebrations concluded with a joyful parade around the field, where children proudly showcased the countries they had learned about. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the day so special. You can check out a selection of photos from the event in our Culture Day Gallery on our website at www.pgps.org.uk.

The following week, our school united to celebrate Neurodiversity Day, recognising and valuing the many ways our brains work. Children across the school relished the chance to express their individuality by changing one item of their uniform, whether it was colourful socks or favourite hats. It was truly a special celebration! In class, each child designed a unique umbrella for a whole-school display representing what makes us special. A highlight of the day was a thoughtful and informative worship led by Ava and Nicole from Year 6, who eloquently explained what neurodiversity means and confidently answered questions from younger pupils.



We also held a wonderful Love Your School event, where Connect Gamston (who meet in our school hall on Sunday afternoons) joined forces with our PTA to make a massive difference to our outdoor space. Our outdoor prayer shelter was painted, dens were built in the trees, and even a mud kitchen was created out of pallets. The sun shone, and it was lovely to see so many members of our local community come together!

It was indeed a wonderful term, filled with creativity, understanding, and pride in our unique selves."

Claire Bills, Head Teacher

The bees and the bull in the Park

The wooden bull has been a much-loved feature of Ambleside Play Park for many years. Over time, countless children and adults have rubbed its nose and sat upon its back.

Earlier this year, it became clear that the bull had become home to a species of solitary bee, one of around 250 solitary bee species found in Britain. These bees make up most of our native bee population, compared to just 24 species of bumblebee and a single species of honeybee.

As their name suggests, solitary bees live alone. Each female constructs her own nest rather than living in a colony with a queen. Common types include mining bees, mason bees and leafcutter bees, the latter of which have made their home in the bull.

Leafcutter bees excavate cavities in dead wood to build their nests. Evidence of their activity can be seen in the photograph beneath the bull's nose. The female bee cuts neat sections of leaves, which she carries back to her nest and glues together with saliva to form cells where her larvae can grow.

Solitary bees are not aggressive and rarely sting people or pets. They are excellent pollinators, so it is important that we protect and encourage them. At the same time, we must

also preserve the bull and prevent further wood decay.

One possible solution is to construct bee hotels nearby, encouraging the bees to relocate and allowing the bull to be repaired and preserved for future generations.

Building a bee hotel is simple, and helpful guidance can be found by visiting www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-you-can-do/activities/build-a-bee-hotel.

