



village

June/July 2011

# Connect

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Art exhibition in Burton Lazars  
Sculptures in the Vale of Belvoir  
Two-day festival at Rutland Water

## PLUS

Fetes & festivals in the villages  
Melton Mowbray Country Fair  
Open Farm Sunday  
Events listing, gardening tips and more

## FROM THE EDITOR



### Hello Readers

Looks like we're in for some great outdoor entertainment over the next couple of months. For the weekend of 25/26 June alone there are seven events listed in our diary (see page 10).

One event you'll definitely want to check out is the Four Winds Festival taking place at Rutland Water. You can read what it's all about on pages 6 and 7.

As always, there are lots of fairs, fetes and festivals going on in the villages, not forgetting the open gardens, which now often include attractions and stalls suitable for the whole family. See pages 7 and 8 for information about some of the bigger events.

If you're looking for somewhere to walk, we have news on page 5 of a new sculpture trail you might want to investigate.

Finally, don't miss the opportunity to experience what a farmer's life is like on Open Farm Sunday (12 June). We have information about two very different venues you can visit locally on page 9, but there are many more within easy driving distance; you'll find a full list of farms participating at [www.farmsunday.org](http://www.farmsunday.org).

I hope you all enjoy the summer!

*Louise*

Cover page photograph:

King Street, Seagrave. © Copyright Mat Fascione

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## BOOTFULS OF BARGAINS



Quorn Car Boot Sale, by Susie Brady - [www.susiebrady.co.uk](http://www.susiebrady.co.uk)

Car boot sales are good hunting grounds if you have a passion for bargains. They also provide a convenient way of raising cash from items you might otherwise throw out. You need to be up early in the morning to get the most from them though! Here are some that operate locally. For more, visit [www.carbootsales.org](http://www.carbootsales.org).

### Bottesford, Grantham Road, NG13 0EE (Just off A52)

Sundays, March to December. Starts: 7am sellers and buyers  
Pitch Fee: £8 cars, £8.50 vans, £1 trailers. Buyer admission: 40p adults, Kids free. Refreshments & toilets. Dogs allowed.

Tel: 01949 842269 Web: [www.bottesfordgiantcarboot.com](http://www.bottesfordgiantcarboot.com)

### Melton Mowbray Market, Salford Road, LE13 1JY

Sundays, all year. Starts: 6:30am sellers, 8.30am buyers  
Pitch Fee: From £7. Buyer admission: 50p. Refreshments & toilets.

Tel: 01159 892561 or 07947 348458  
Web: [www.meltonmowbraymarket.co.uk/car-boot-sale](http://www.meltonmowbraymarket.co.uk/car-boot-sale)

#### TOP TIPS FOR FIRST-TIME SELLERS

- Pack your table last so it comes out first when you arrive.
- Have a float of change and use a moneybelt for your cash.

### Quorn, Granite Way, LE12 7AX

Sundays and Bank Holidays, March to November  
Starts: 6:30am sellers, 7.30am buyers

Pitch Fee: £7 cars, £11 vans, £3 trailers.

Buyer admission: 50p adults, 20p OAPs, kids free. Refreshments & toilets. Dogs on leads, no catering vans/new goods.

Tel: 07973 176461. Web: [www.quorncarboot.co.uk](http://www.quorncarboot.co.uk)

#### TOP TIP FOR FIRST-TIME BUYERS

You're more likely to get a really good deal at the end of the day when sellers might be glad to get rid of things rather than take them home.

### Rearsby Village Hall, LE7 4YS (Off A607 Leicester-Melton road)

Every 4th Saturday - 4 June, 2 July, 30 July, 20 August, 17 September.

Starts: 7.30am sellers, 8am buyers. Pitch fee: £6

Buyer admission: 30p. Refreshments & toilets.

Tel: 01664 424427


### Stanford Hall, Near East Leake, LE12 5QW (A6006)

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays. Starts: 8am sellers, 8.30am buyers. Pitch fee: £6 cars, £8 trailers, £10 vans.

Buyer admission: 50p (kids free). Refreshments & toilets. Play area.

Tel: 07967 241855. Web: [www.stanfordhallcarboot.co.uk](http://www.stanfordhallcarboot.co.uk)

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# MEET THE ARTISTS, SEE THEIR WORK

For a third year, the **Framland Group of Artists** are inviting the public to meet them and view their work at **Burton Lazars Village Hall**. They will be there on **Saturday 18** and **Sunday 19 June**, between 10am and 4pm.

On display will be the watercolour landscapes of rural Britain by **Christopher Clayton**, the textural and energetic landscapes by **Keith Sturgess** and the unique and beautiful range of decoupage keepsake boxes from **Wendy Penrice**. **Liz Emery** will be showing felted pictures, combining Merino wool and silk fibres that capture light and texture, alongside **Joel Walker's** sculpture portraits of animals and people in bronze. Two potters compliment the group: see **Tishy Budden's** vibrant porcelain bowls with glasslike glazes and **David Wright's** hand-built wood-fired stoneware vessels with subtle ash glazes (pictured above).



This year the Framland Group (which is part of Rutland Open Studios) is supporting Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland Air Ambulance, helping to raise funds and awareness.

Rutland Open Studios 2011 takes place at various locations around the region over three weekends: 4/5, 11/12 and 18/19 June. Over 81 artists will be exhibiting a mix of paintings, printmaking, pottery & ceramics, sculpture, textiles, jewellery and decoupage. For further information, go to [www.rutlandopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.rutlandopenstudios.co.uk).

## YOUR SHOT COULD BE A WINNER

Rutland Water Nature Reserve is running a competition to find the most striking images of Rutland Water and its wildlife.



© Mat Fascione

The 'Photographer of the Summer' competition is free to enter, with four categories to choose from: Birds, Animals & Insects, Landscapes/Plant Life, Under 14. It is open to everyone in the UK and runs until **12 September**. Prizes will be awarded to the winner of each category and the winning images will be displayed in the Anglian Water Bird Watching Centre. Winners should be announced by the end of September.

All photographs entered will be posted onto a gallery on the Rutland Water Nature Reserve Facebook page as the competition progresses.

For full details and an entry form, email [will@rutlandwater.org.uk](mailto:will@rutlandwater.org.uk) or phone 01572 770651.



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## STAYING CONNECTED

We now have several ways of keeping in touch with you between issues, as well as through our website: [www.villageconnect.co.uk](http://www.villageconnect.co.uk).



Follow our blog for news, features and pictures from around the region that we couldn't find space for in the magazine or that couldn't wait until the next issue. [www.villageconnect.blogspot.com](http://www.villageconnect.blogspot.com)



Like our Facebook page and get reminders of upcoming events and links to local stories. You can also use it to let us and others know about something we might have missed! Find us by searching 'Village Connect'



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# SCULPTURES ALONG THE CANAL

A stretch of public-access land on the Belvoir Estate, and alongside the Grantham Canal, has been turned into a sculpture trail for everyone to enjoy.

The 'Belvoir 3Rs: Reclaimed, Recycled, Raw' trail, near **Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir**, was unveiled at the end of April and is the initiative of sculptor **Laury Dizengremel**, Artist-in-Residence at Belvoir Castle. Laury worked with selected students and emerging artists at a symposium to create the 12 sculptures forming the trail. Their challenge was to create sculptures that not only used reclaimed, recycled or raw materials but could also survive an outdoor environment.

The sculptures now in place will be there for at least a year, with new ones being added annually as the trail grows in length. It will eventually form a two-mile loop.

Laury is hoping the trail will help raise awareness of the issues of sustainability.



*Above: Woodhenge, a collaborative work by Laury with children from six primary schools in Leicestershire and 33 students from Belvoir High School.*



*Right: Hermé's Room, a willow-oven-metal sculpture by 15-year-old Douglas Kirk Bellamy.*

To find out more about the trail, visit [www.laurydizengremel.co.uk](http://www.laurydizengremel.co.uk) or call Laury on 01476 879071

## WALKING THE TRAIL

The trail starts at the Dirty Duck (also known as the Rutland Arms), which is just outside **Woolsthorpe**, and follows the Grantham Canal towpath as far as Stenwith Bridge.

This is a lovely area to go walking in. As well as the canal towpath, there are plenty of footpaths to explore. If you prefer to follow instructions rather than relying on a map, however, the AA website has a suggested circular route that takes in the sculpture trail. It's 4.8 miles long and should take about 2.5 hours to complete. From the village, it takes you beside the canal, along

the sculpture trail and later on through some woodland. There are great views of Belvoir Castle on the way back.

You can download details of the walk from [www.theaa.com/walks/king-of-belvoir-castle-420129](http://www.theaa.com/walks/king-of-belvoir-castle-420129). If you don't have internet access, send us a stamped addressed envelope (our address is on the back page) and we will send you a printout.

A walk following much the same route as this is soon to be featured in a video made by Walks Around Britain. You'll be able to view it at [www.walksaroundbritain.co.uk](http://www.walksaroundbritain.co.uk).

## TOP AWARDS FOR LOCAL SCOUTS

Eight Explorers from the Rearsby Scout Group have gained their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Queens Scout Awards, the top awards in Scouting.

To gain their awards, **Victor Iliffe, Conrad Hughes, Tim Sharman, William Bourne, Suzie Marriott, George Wright, Ben Robinson** and **Michael Allsop** had to complete five sections: volunteering, skills, physical, expedition, and residential.



**Rearsby Scout Group** is a thriving group and would like more adult leaders to continue to inspire local young people to enjoy scouting and achieve more awards. For more information, contact **Anne Lewis**: [anne@lewis2780.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:anne@lewis2780.fsnet.co.uk).

**The Satellite Explorer Unit** welcomes more members, boys and girls aged 14-18yrs to do the Duke of Edinburgh's and Scouting Awards. For more information, contact **Tim Bourne**: [tmbourne@gmail.com](mailto:tmbourne@gmail.com).



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# FOUR WINDS FESTIVAL

RUTLAND WATER  
25TH & 26TH JUNE



The Four Winds Festival is a **FREE** weekend event on Rutland Water.

## The Way the Winds Blow by Chris Baldwin

A theatrical and musical spectacular on land and water. Narrated by Hannah Gordon



On Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June from 12pm the banks of Rutland Water's south shore will be transformed into a family festival with a huge variety of events and activities culminating in the magnificent ticketed performance of The Way the Winds Blow at 6.30pm.

On both days of the festival there will be a huge variety of exciting things for the whole family to enjoy:

- Add to the Rutland Water Art Installation
  - Learn about the Osprey and its migration
  - Make your own musical instrument
  - Circus Skills Workshops
  - Learn how to sail
  - View the Art Exhibitions and demonstrations
  - See the Water Aid Pump in action
- Please bring your picnics, bring your kites, and enjoy the day!

Tickets for The Way the Winds Blow are now on sale priced

Adults	£10
Concessions	£5
Family ticket for 3 people	£25

Available online Keep up to date with the latest festival news on [twitter@4winds](https://twitter.com/4winds) festival

Visit [www.fourwindsfestival.co.uk](http://www.fourwindsfestival.co.uk)  
Tickets and information  
07770543118



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# A SUMMER OF OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT

Each summer we seem to add more and more outdoor village events to our diary (see page 10). Here are some of the larger scale festivals you can enjoy in June and July.



## STATHERN FESTIVAL, 10-19 JUNE

As always, music plays a big part in this festival. There's everything from villagers showing off their talents at the Stars of Stathern event (10 June), to the family Barn Dance (18 June), the French-themed musical evening (15 June) and culminating in the regular Jazz evening (19 June). Not forgetting the big crowd puller of the festival, the Party in the Park (11 June) with live bands playing all afternoon and into the evening. There will also be stalls and other attractions to keep everyone happy.

This year, the dog show (12 June) will be more of a family event, with face painting (children not dogs!) and a fly ball demonstration. You're invited to take your pooches and parade them with pride!

Programmes are available from Stathern Stores and you can keep up to date online at [www.stathernfestival.org.uk](http://www.stathernfestival.org.uk).



## BIRSTALL VILLAGE GALA, 25-26 JUNE

Billed as a weekend of family fun and entertainment, this festival promises live music on both days, a funfair, lots of stalls, a boxing display, and a beer tent among other things. It takes place on the School Lane Playing Fields (LE4 4DH).

The popular Proms in the Park concert and firework display on the Sunday (26 June) is usually attended by over 2,500 people.

For more information, phone 0116 267 6191, email [admin@birstallpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@birstallpc.org.uk) or visit [www.birstallpc.org.uk](http://www.birstallpc.org.uk).

*Pictured left:*

*Top: Live music at the Party in the Park, Stathern Festival*

*Bottom: A flame thrower entertains the crowd at Hose Fest*

## HANNAH GORDON TO NARRATE THE WAY THE WIND BLOWS

Hannah Gordon, star of screen and stage has been announced as the magical voice of *The Way the Winds Blow* (part of the Four Winds Festival taking place at Rutland Water on 25 and 26 June).

Edinburgh born, and trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama, Ms Gordon will be the narrator taking the audience through the story of Rutland Water and its Four Winds.

She has appeared in many successful television dramas including the BBC's *David Copperfield*, *Great Expectations* and *Middlemarch*. She also presented the very popular *Watercolour Challenge* on Channel 4, and made a memorable appearance in the last ever episode of *One Foot in the Grave*.

Her film work includes the highly acclaimed *The Elephant Man* with John Hurt and Anthony Hopkins, and she was recently seen in the American romantic comedy *Made of Honour*.

Chris Baldwin, writer of *The Way the Winds Blow*, expressed his delight at the appointment, "To have someone of such huge stage and screen acclaim as the voice of the story is absolutely wonderful. Her tone and grace will work sublimely with the music, its dramatic setting, the puppets and performers all connecting to bring Rutland Water to life like never before."



Tickets for *The Way the Winds Blow* are now on sale at the following prices:

£10 adults, £5 concessions, £25 family (2 adults, 3 children), and are available online at [www.fourwindsfestival.co.uk](http://www.fourwindsfestival.co.uk).

The latest festival news is shared on the festival's twitter account @4windsfestival.

## THORPE ARNOLD VILLAGE FESTIVAL, 30 JUNE-3 JULY

The first event on the four-day programme is a cheese & wine evening in the church (30 June, 7.30pm), followed next day by a talent competition at Church Farm. Music in the church, a photography and history display, plus dinner dance with live band (7.30pm) are scheduled for 2 July. Sunday (3 July) sees the family fun day, between 10am and 6pm. There'll be classic cars, Irish dancing, a dog show, a karate display, craft and charity stalls, and lots of family entertainment, with a BBQ at lunchtime and into the afternoon. The festival finishes with Songs of Praise at 6pm.

For more information, call 01664 564411.

## HOSE FEST, 2 JULY

This one-day event packs a lot in and keeps on getting bigger. New for this year are a jousting competition, a beer festival and weekend camping (Friday & Saturday nights). It all takes place on the grounds of the village hall, kicking off with a car boot sale at midday, followed by the village fete and live music in the evening (until 11pm).

For more information visit [www.hosefest.org.uk](http://www.hosefest.org.uk) or phone 01949 860064/07891 058198.

# CELEBRATE COUNTRY LIVING

This year's **Melton Mowbray Country Fair** takes place on **Sunday 26 June** between 10am and 5pm. It's a celebration of our countryside and local environment.



There's plenty for the whole family to get involved with, including the annual Melton 'Big Bake' with new bread auction, cooking, baking and tasting activities in the 'Have Fun with Food' marquee, and the best of local food and drink in the Farmers Market. Gardener's Question Time, a fun Dog Show, along with the Hinckley Hooligan's Flyball Demo and the Quack Pack sheepdog display are also in the day's line-up. Last but not least, local artists and craft workers will be demonstrating their talents. Children will enjoy the livestock area, where there will be hatching eggs, rare breed sheep, a vulture or two and the amazing interactive bee tent.

Admission is £5 for adults, £1 for children 5+, £10 for families.

For more, visit [www.meltonmowbraycountryfair.co.uk](http://www.meltonmowbraycountryfair.co.uk).

## SOME OF THE THINGS YOU CAN DO IN VILLAGES THIS SUMMER

- Judge scarecrows in **Bottesford (11 June)**
- See willow weaving and wood carving in **Hungarton (11/12 June)**
- Take part in a falconry display in **Hickling (12 June)**
- Enter 'My Dad's a Knockout' competition in **Seagrave (19 June)**
- Tuck in to a hogroast in **Pickwell (25 June)**
- Visit 20 gardens in **Wymeswold (25/26 June)**

See diary on page 10 for details

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# IN YOUR GARDEN

by Helen Osborne of Church View Nursery



## Hello Gardeners,

Hopefully we have seen the last of the frosts, so bedding plants can be used to give a bit of colour to a border that has a few gaps. For the tall plants, I like to use Cosmos (pictured above), white to different shades of pink, or Nicotiana Sylvestris. For the front of the border, Alyssum and Mesmeranthemum. A garden would not be complete without hanging baskets in the summer. When selecting the plants, check with the nursery if they are suitable; some, like Begonias or Impatiens, prefer a shady position, whereas others will perform better in a sunny position. Water them regularly and feed them once a week with a soluble fertilizer. Remove any dead flowers regularly.

If you are growing tomatoes, continue to remove the side shoots and suitably support them with a cane. If you haven't planted out the runner beans, now is the time to do so. The first of the early potatoes will be ready; when lifting, always use a fork. Follow on with a crop of leeks. When planting, rake the soil over, make holes of about 2 inches across and deep enough to still see the top of the leek when in the hole. Water the holes, then plant and leave the leeks to swell as they grow. Harvest them as you need them throughout the winter.

Hedges such as privet will need a trim now, as they are fast growing; before doing so, just check that there are no nesting birds. If you trim a privet hedge regularly, it will make a thicker hedge.

## PLANTS OF INTEREST

**Philadelphus Belle Etoile:** scented white flowers, with deep centre, 1.5m.

**Geranium Lace Time:** delicate white flowers, and cerise markings, 45cm.

**Verbena Bonariensis:** small clusters of purple flowers, 1.5m.

**Cosmos Purity:** daisy like flowers, 1m.

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Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 9.30am-1pm

## A TASTE OF LIFE ON THE FARM



**Northfield Farm near Oakham (LE15 7QF)** is one of the local farms open on the day (10am-4pm). Here, you can go on a woodland walk, see vintage and modern machinery and meet free range cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, llamas and Jimmy the donkey! The farm shop, butchery and licenced tea room will be open and there will be ongoing food demonstrations.

For more information, call 01664 474271, or email [tessa@northfieldfarm.com](mailto:tessa@northfieldfarm.com). Website: [www.northfieldfarm.com](http://www.northfieldfarm.com).

**Stanford Hall Estate near Loughborough (LE12 5QW)** will be open from 10am until 5pm. Here, you'll get a chance to see the pedigree Highland cattle herd, fallow deer and sheep. There will also be a fayre and farmers' market, and refreshments will be available.

For more information, call 01509 857200 or email [heather@stanfordhallestate.co.uk](mailto:heather@stanfordhallestate.co.uk). Website: [www.stanfordhallestate.co.uk](http://www.stanfordhallestate.co.uk).

On Sunday 12 June, farms up and down the country will be opening their gates to the public. Open Farm Sunday is a great opportunity for everyone to really get in touch with the land that feeds us and discover at first hand what it means to be a farmer. Each event will be unique and based around the host farm's own individual story. Activities during the day may include farm walks, nature trails, tractor & trailer rides, pond dipping, activities for kids, mini farmers' markets and picnics.

For more about Open Farm Sunday and to find other farms you can visit go to [www.farmsunday.org](http://www.farmsunday.org).

## A GROWING CONCERN

**Bob Armstrong and Helen Osborne**, owners of Church View Nursery in Barkby, have lots of plans for making full use of the extra space they gained recently by expanding their business onto adjoining land.



They have already built two polytunnels to display their plants in, and have converted the building that came with the new plot into a large shop.

"Over time we will be increasing what we offer in the shop (apart from the plants, this currently includes fresh fruit and veg, bird food, and seeds and pots)", explained Bob. "We can't compete with the garden centre chains or the supermarkets, but what we can do is stock more home grown and homemade produce sourced from local suppliers."

Meanwhile, with two polytunnels and a larger outside display area to fill, Helen is busy cultivating the plants.

Church View Nursery is on Queniborough Road in Barkby. Tel: 0116 269 5505.



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Check [www.villageconnect.co.uk](http://www.villageconnect.co.uk) for other diary dates. We now also use Twitter and Facebook to keep followers up to date with what's going on. See page 3.



## June

- 2-4 **Thrussington Village Green**, 7.30pm. Skittles on the Green for all the family with hot dogs and children's stalls. Tel: 01664 424430.
- 4-12 **Leicestershire Walking Week**. For full details, visit [www.leics.gov.uk/walkingweek.htm](http://www.leics.gov.uk/walkingweek.htm).
- 10-19 **Stathern village**. Stathern Festival. See page 7.
- 11 **Cossington School**, 12-2.30pm. Cossington Fete. Stalls, games and family fun. Tel: 01509 812565.
- 11 **Hoby Church**, 7.30pm. Ratcliffe Chorale Summer Concert. Tel: 01664 434895.
- 11-12 **Hungarton Village**, 11am-5pm. Hungarton Open Country Gardens. Numerous gardens open throughout the village. Pimms bar, country produce, willow weaving, wood carving, plants, books, cream teas and much more. Free car parking. In aid of Hungarton Charities. Tel: 0116 259 5274 or 0116 259 5643.
- 11-12 **Bottesford Village & School**, 12-4pm. Scarecrow Festival weekend. Saturday: homemade scarecrows, with judging from 10am. Sunday: Scarecrow Fayre with attractions, arena events, charity and trade stalls. Entrance free. Tel: 0788 303 2441.
- 12 **Tilton on the Hill, LE7 9L**. 11am-5pm. Open Gardens & Fete. Gardens open around village and fete at village hall, raffle, stalls, cake stall, tombola. £3. Tel: 0116 259 7206 or 259 7516.
- 12 **Hickling**, 9.45am-5pm. Hickling Country Fayre. Corn Dolly Challenge & Fun Run, plus craft fair & market, refreshments, fair rides and games, music and displays, falconry display involving mass participation, pony rides, companion dog show. In aid of local charities. £1.50 per adult. Free parking.
- 12 **Open Farm Sunday**. See page 9 for local venues you can visit.
- 18 **Thrussington Village Green**, 10.30am-2.30pm. Thrussington Trinity Fayre. Many stalls including tombola, cakes, bric-a-brac, childrens' games, teas. Proceeds to be shared between the school PTFA and the church. Tel: 01664 424246.
- 18 **Keyham**, 11am-6pm. Keyham Open Gardens. Various stalls incl. tombola, books, cakes, lunches, cream teas & Pimms, plants for sale. £3. Free parking. Tel: 0116 259 5625.
- 18-19 **Burton Lazars Village Hall**, 10am-4pm. Exhibition by the Framland Group of Artists. See page 3.
- 19 **Seagrave Memorial Hall LE12, 7LY**, 12pm. Seagrave Village Fete. Traditional village fete with the usual stalls and family activities including 'My Dad's a Knockout' competition, open to all fathers. For more, email [john\\_mcdermott@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:john_mcdermott@tiscali.co.uk).
- 19 **Harby Village Hall & Village**, 1-5pm. Harby Open Gardens, Cream Teas, Scarecrows and Sale Trail. Gardens open around the village, with scarecrows. Homemade cream teas, cakes and biscuits (served in the village hall) and a selection of stalls selling jams, craftwork etc. Tel: 01949 860480.
- 19 **Knossington**. 1.30-5.30pm. Knossington's Country Gardens. Teas, stalls and church display. Tel: 01664 454267.
- 25 **Manor Gardens, Pickwell**, 2pm. Pickwell Village Fete. Dog agility display, hog roast, cream teas, childrens races, bric-a-brac, etc. Tel: 01664 454428, or email [fayvbrook@gmail.com](mailto:fayvbrook@gmail.com).
- 25-26 **School Lane Playing Fields, Birstall, LE4 4DH**. Birstall Village Gala. See page 7.
- 25-26 **Rutland Water**, Four Winds Festival. See pages 6 & 7.
- 25-26 **Wymeswold, LE12 6TU**, 2-6pm. Open Gardens. 20 gardens open to celebrate 20 years of the Wymeswold Walkabout. Scarecrows, stalls, Morris dancing. £3.50. Tel: 01509 881664.
- 25-26 **Osgathorpe**, from noon. Open Gardens, music in church, farmers' market, art trail, classic cars & bikes, children's events, BBQ, cream teas & licensed bar. £3. In aid of St Mary's Church. Tel: 01530 224579 or visit [www.osgathorpe.org.uk](http://www.osgathorpe.org.uk).
- 26 **Town Estates Park, Melton, LE13 0PT**, 10am-5pm. Country Fair. See page 8.
- 26 **Old Dalby, LE13 3LB**, 11am-6pm. Open Gardens event plus church fete. Homemade produce including elderflower cordial, preserves, cakes and more. £3.50.
- 30- **Thorpe Arnold**. Village Festival. Continues to 3 July. See page 7.

## July

- 2 **Hose Village Hall Grounds**, 12noon-11pm. Hose Fest: village fete followed by a live music event. See page 7.
- 3 **Goadby Marwood**, 2-6pm. Open Gardens.
- 3 **Rotherby**, 2-6pm. Rotherby Open Gardens plus garage sales, display in Church, raffle, stalls and teas. Programmes available in church and the car park. £3 each, children free. No dogs except guide dogs.
- 9 **Frisby Cricket Club**, afternoon/evening. Fristock: live music event. [www.fristock.co.uk](http://www.fristock.co.uk) for details & times.
- 23 **Uppingham Market Square**, 9-11.30am. Morris dancing display by over 150 dancers. Tel: 01572 723467 or visit [www.morrismen.org.uk](http://www.morrismen.org.uk).

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Send details of events that have missed the print deadline to [louise@villageconnect.co.uk](mailto:louise@villageconnect.co.uk) or post them on the VC Facebook page

While every effort is made to ensure information in the Diary is correct, Village Connect cannot be held responsible for any errors it contains

# CREATING A WORKSPACE FOR YOUR HOME

Looking to create an 'office' in your home that won't intrude in your living space? **Paul Cheater** of **Swift Fitted Furniture** has a few tips that might help you decide how to go about it.



## KEEP IT SEPARATE

If you work from home full time, it's important to be able to 'close' your office at the end of the day so you can forget about it and relax. A spare bedroom is ideal.

Failing that, a corner of the dining/sitting room, or even conservatory, that can be hidden behind a screen when not in use is a good compromise.

## KEEP IT TIDY

There's no reason why your home office should not look professional and organised. A desk or computer workstation and chair will be essential pieces of furniture. It's also worth investing in storage that makes the most of the space you have. With careful planning, even the smallest of areas can be adapted to accommodate shelving and cupboards to keep everything in its place.

## KEEP IT STYLISH

Make sure your office has eye appeal. If it's in a corner of a room, aim for a coordinated look that blends with the other furniture. Of course, if you're lucky enough to have a separate room to work in, you can give it a style all its own.

Swift Fitted Furniture has office solutions to suit all tastes and any area in the home.  
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