

Ruddington Parish Council VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

It Will Soon Be Spring!



Members of the local W.I. have planted numerous bulbs in the areas at the front of St Peter's Rooms to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Ruddington Branch, which is in the Spring of 2014.

It is hoped that the bulbs will provide a public show of colour for years to come and will be a reminder of the pleasure that membership of the WI has provided for the last 90 years within our village. Long may it continue.

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Seasonal Events at GCRN

GCRN, Ruddington's local heritage railway, is gearing up for its final events of the year, kicking off with the annual Firework Spectacular on Saturday 9 November. The event has become increasingly popular over the last few years and now features connecting railway services for people who'd like to enjoy travelling from Rushcliffe Halt on the evening.

Held at the GCRN site at Rushcliffe Country Park, the Firework Spectacular opens its doors at 5:30pm, with the firework display starting at 7:30pm. There's fun for all the family throughout the evening, with funfair rides, candy stalls, hot food, a chocolate fountain and a licensed bar on offer. The miniature railway will also be open for rides, and the crowds will be entertained by live music before and after the fireworks.

Discounted advance tickets can be bought online at www.gcrn.co.uk, with full-price tickets available on the night.

At the end of November, Santa Claus will be making his seasonal return to GCRN, with Santa Special train services running every weekend from Saturday 30 November through to Sunday 22 December. A brand new Christmas Eve service is also set to be launched (subject to confirmation), featuring a traditional brass band, hot chestnuts and fairground rides for the kids.

All steam-hauled, the Santa Special services will take a festive trip through the wintry countryside accompanied by Santa, who'll be handing out gifts to all the children. Sweets and drinks will

also be on offer, along with seasonal refreshments for the grown-ups.

Pre-booking for the Santa Special is essential, so please visit www.gcrn.co.uk to download the special Santa leaflet for full timetable, ticketing and booking details.

By Faye Stenson

Rotary Christmas Float Santa Needs Your Help!!!

Do you belong to a group who would like to be involved with a rewarding Street Collection, the Rotary Christmas Float? Due to the increasing popularity of the Santa Float, Keyworth and Ruddington Rotary Club now need more help with the collection.



Knocking on doors in order to let children know Santa is coming is a rewarding experience, as is the collection of monies for a good cause. We already collaborate with other clubs who share the proceeds such as Ruddington Colts Football Club and Air Ambulance.

Interested? Please contact:

Keith Turney
keith@centralhighrise.co.uk
Work: 0115 958 7637
Home: 0115 921 2440

White Horse Flies Guinness Class to Dublin

A quiet after-work drink in Ruddington's White Horse Inn turned into a ritzy night out in Dublin for six local drinkers on Friday 18 October.

Charles Street resident Gary Johnson was the lucky winner of a special Guinness promotion – held across a number of Nottingham pubs – which saw him and five friends whisked off to Dublin in a private jet.

The group, which included White Horse owner Tony Beecroft, enjoyed a whirlwind tour around the sights of Dublin before being flown back to Birmingham airport in the small hours and returned to Ruddington by limousine.

'What an amazing night,' Gary said on his return. 'I still can't believe it, I'm still buzzing!'

The promotion, which features air hostesses handing out a selection of Guinness-related goodies to fans of the black stuff, returns to the White Horse on Friday 15 November.



Pictured: Tony Beecroft, Stuart Smith, Gary Johnson, Paul Sharp, Elaine Glover and Alexander Thorpe.

By Faye Stenson

Policing

Our PCSO Vee says

"As we approach the winter's dark evenings can I ask residents with vehicles to ensure they empty their cars/vans of any personal items when leaving it unattended? The majority of car crime is committed by opportunist thieves. If you see any suspicious behaviour please ring 101 non emergency or 999 emergency (if a crime is being committed)."

Contact:

DIAL 101 for non emergencies

PCSO Vee White 07702 141 778

PCSO Jonny Wilkinson. 07525 226 593

In an emergency ring 999

Telephone Preference Service Scam

Nottinghamshire Police Pre Crime Unit has received reports of some Nottinghamshire residents being cold-called by telephone, where the caller claims to be calling from the Telephone Preference Service (TPS).

The caller advises that there has been a lot of nuisance calls in the resident's area and that they can stop all nuisance calls for a one off payment or a monthly fee which can vary from call to call.

For this fee the caller claims to be able to send a 'device' that plugs into the telephone socket or attaches to the telephone that will stop nuisance calls.

The Telephone Preference Service is a free service and are aware of these types of scams and other scams where callers claim to be calling from the TPS. Further information can be found on their website <http://www.tpsonline.org.uk>

We would advise you never to provide your personal or bank account details to

anybody over the telephone unless you are satisfied that you have verified the caller's details and that they are genuine.

If you've received similar calls and think you've been scammed you should report it to Action Fraud. Action Fraud can be contacted online by visiting their website <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk> or via telephone on 0300 123 2040.

“Age is just a number and I'm proud of my number”

In 1990 the United Nations General Assembly designated 1st October as International Day of Older Persons. In 2013 Ruddington celebrated it thanks to funding from the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue 'On Fire' Fund.



Volunteers from Ruddington Fun, the Framework Knitters Museum and the Village Museum collaboratively provided 2 hours of free activities and refreshments for 45 local “older people” supported by the loan of a room by the White Horse Public house.

Plans are already in hand to do another event next year so if as an “older person” you have any ideas what you would like to happen on **your** special day let me know!

By Barbara Breakwell

St Peter's School Growing Success

St Peter's Junior School is celebrating a successful year with a “good” Ofsted Inspection, its best ever SAT's results, the end of a £1 million building programme and the creation of two extra classes.

Inspectors, who visited in July, rated the school good in all areas, praising the progress children make in all year groups, the way they collaborate well and the great use teachers make of the school's large grounds.

They also said that standards pupils reached by year six were significantly above average, and this is reflected in the school's SATs results this year, which have shown children making more progress than ever before.

Nottinghamshire County Council has spent more than £1 million on rewiring, completely refurbishing the exterior with new windows, cladding and insulation, replacing the entire boiler and heating system, and creating a new pitched roof on the main block and hall.

“Many people in Ruddington will know that St Peter's is a converted secondary school, which is why it is so spacious,” Mr Mapperley, the School Head, said. This extra space has enabled two new classrooms to be created in the existing building this year, so the school could add an extra class in both years three and four this September.

“Base Camp”, the school's free-standing outside classroom, has been completely refurbished and is becoming popular for hire with local community groups, as well as forming a base for the school's outdoor learning.

Other developments include a woodland “classroom” with facilities for outdoor cooking and shelter-building, a “Pirate Island” play area, sandpits and mini allotments for children. The “orchard” area behind the school has been transformed with a range of problem-solving outdoor games built and designed by volunteers and children.

The Friends of St Peter’s have also funded additions including the trim trail and outdoor climbing wall and are currently raising money to refurbish another play area.

For all enquiries, please contact the school on 0115-974-3303.

Karen Cross

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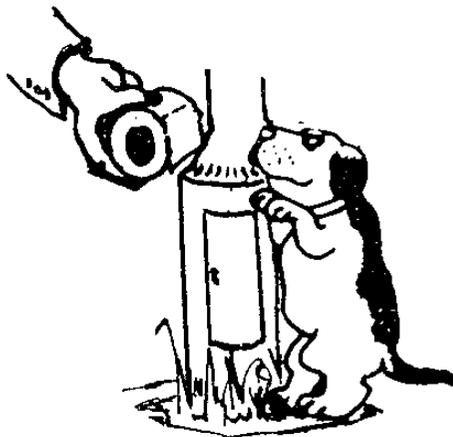
Remove Unacceptable Dog Dirt

Owning a dog brings with it certain responsibilities and none more so than when that dog leaves the confines of its own home/ garden and is taken out into a public place.

Dogs should always be on a lead as they are walked and exercised around our village streets. In certain areas they may be allowed off their lead but they should always be kept in sight and under control at all times. The majority of owners go out armed with bags and carefully monitor their pet and when it requires a “comfort break” they diligently bag the deposits. If owners forget their bags there are various dispensers around the village, particularly in the playground/ park areas. Red coloured specific dog waste bins are also situated throughout the village but it is fine to use any bin. *“Bag that poo- any rubbish bin will do”*

So why is our village peppered with piles of dog dirt? The footpaths, alleys, green spaces and recreational areas all seem to have been attacked by this blight. If the majority can be bothered to be responsible and considerate owners why can't every owner?

The two local schools actively encourage families to walk, scoot or bike to school but on numerous occasions parents/ carers report that wheels and shoes have been covered in dog dirt. It also impacts on other residents of all ages.



Feelings within the village are very high at the moment about this unacceptable situation caused by an inconsiderate minority. Parents/ carers are very concerned about the possible implications of young children getting dog faeces on themselves which in the worst case can lead to blindness due to an infection called *Toxocara canis*. They are determined to identify, name and report the offenders to the Borough Council. With the advent of modern technologies e.g. mobile phones the resources are now readily available to record and report anything they observe. *Continued on page 8*

Ruddington on Social Media

Did you know that Ruddington has an ever-increasing presence in the world of social media? Apart from the many individual businesses, clubs and organisations in the village that have their own pages, there's also a growing number of general information and 'shared interest' groups. Here are a few of the most popular:

- **Ruddington Village (Facebook and Twitter)**

General information pages for Ruddington residents, offering details of upcoming events, local services and so on. All residents are welcome to contribute to the Facebook page or respond to Tweets.



- **Ruddington Mums (Facebook and Twitter)**

A place for local mums (dads and other residents also welcome!) to discuss or share information on parent-focused issues such as local childcare services and mum and toddler groups.

- **Ruddington Reach (Facebook and Twitter)**

Ruddington Reach is a brand new local business directory that aims to connect local businesses with their clients. They use their Facebook page and Twitter feeds to share information about their activities and post news about local businesses.

- **Ruddington Wellness (Facebook)**

An organisation that provides a network for Ruddington people to come together to improve the overall wellbeing of the community.

- **Ruddington Fun (Facebook)**

This is the Facebook page for the Ruddington Fun school holidays activity scheme. By 'liking' the page, you can easily keep track of forthcoming events and find out how to get involved.



- **Ruddington Recycle (Facebook)**

One person's trash is another's treasure... Ruddington Recycle is here for local people to exchange information about unwanted items, in the hope of finding them a new home rather than discarding them.



How to find the pages

To find any of the above pages or Twitter feeds, simply log into your Twitter or Facebook account and enter the name of the group into the Search box. If you don't have Twitter or Facebook accounts yet, these are quick and easy to set up – but make sure you choose your Privacy settings carefully when using Facebook.

By Faye Stenson

We Will Remember Them

Ruddington & District Branch of the Royal British Legion launched its 2013 Poppy Appeal with a coffee morning and stalls at St. Peter's Rooms on the 26th October.

Ruddington RBL Chair Ken Hicks told us *"Each year we manage to raise around £10,000 locally to help provide financial, social & emotional care and support to all members of the British Armed Forces - past and present - and their families. This is through the Poppy Appeal, donations and a few legacies. We hope residents will give generously again this year. As well as the collection boxes we've distributed to 40 local businesses, airforce cadets will also be selling poppies around the streets of Ruddington on Saturday the 9th of November."*



The Legion is, of course, the national Custodian of Remembrance and will be holding two local services at the recently refurbished Ruddington War Memorial.



Sunday the 10th of November sees the main event with uniformed brigades marching from the Co-op, along Church Street, to the memorial for the act of remembrance. This includes a short outdoor service, wreath laying, a bugler and the two minutes' silence at 11am, followed by a full service in St. Peter's Church. There will also be a bugler and a two minute silence on Armistice Day itself, Monday the 11th, at the same time.

Ken adds *"We're always looking for new, younger members. A lot of people don't know that you can join us from the age of sixteen and don't need to have served in the Forces."*

Ruddington & District Royal British Legion meets on the first Thursday of every month, at 8pm in St. Peters Rooms, and everyone is welcome. The local branch is also online at <http://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/ruddington> and on Twitter [@RuddBritLegion](https://twitter.com/RuddBritLegion).

By Graham Wright

Continued from Page 6

Rushcliffe Borough Council is our local enforcement Authority for all things to do with dog ownership. They have the powers to issue spot fines of £50 or a fine of up to £1000 on prosecution if a dog is allowed to foul in a public place and the owner fails to clean it up straight away.

“Remove Unacceptable Dog Dirt”

Barbara Breakwell and Faye Stenson

Brownies

I have spaces at my Brownie Pack for girls aged 7 – 11 years. We meet at a venue in Ruddington once a week. For more details call Gina on 984 3853.

We are having a coffee morning at St. Peter's Rooms on 10 a.m. -12 noon, 14th December. 50 pence, including tea and coffee.

Support the Co-op Store Workers

The shopworkers of the local Co-op on Church Street are campaigning for your support for a Protection of Workers Bill that is being proposed for debate in Parliament.

The Bill would protect workers against violence, threats and abuse and see those guilty face large fines and prison sentences.

To find out more visit the store on Wednesday 13th November between 12noon and 7 p.m. Come along to pledge your support and pick up some free homemade cakes and more!

Kev Lowe
(Co-op Customer Team Member &
Chairman of Usdaw E056 branch)

Go To Gracie's!

After a period of closure Ruddington's Village Café on High Street has now got a new lease of life – AND a new name!

'Gracie's Kitchen' is due to open for business on the 2nd of November with new owners Lisa and Tony Grace at the helm.

You can still pop in just for tea or coffee – maybe some cake? – but they're also open very early to offer cooked breakfasts and lunches in a traditional café atmosphere.



“We're from Keyworth” says Lisa “and I've always wanted to own and run a café. I thought it might be when I was a bit older, and that it would probably be on the coast - but when this chance came up in Ruddington I leapt at it!”

They've not been idle whilst the doors have been closed. The kitchen area has been completely re-fitted and the café itself painted and refurbished. It's a true family business since Lisa is the main cook whilst daughter Amy serves at the tables.

Lisa told us they're open Monday to Saturday from 7am to 3pm: *“We look forward to giving a warm welcome to customers old and new!”*

By Graham Wright

Traffic Madness

If you are a car driver, or indeed a passenger, you cannot have failed to notice the vast number of roadworks and diversions currently affecting our routes around Rushcliffe and in to the City. Recently, on a trip back from the city centre, we decided to detour through Wilford to visit a friend in West Bridgford. We were diverted three times and workmen were setting up traffic lights to make progress further even more frustrating. Of course, I am sure this work is essential maintenance, development, repairs and/or engineering for the new NET extension but as we approach the festive season I am not sure 'goodwill' will be on the tip of everyone's lips when they are trying to do their Christmas shopping.

So why go out of the village for your Festive Fayre? Why not shop in the village? Apart from the obvious things like turkey, ham and Brussels sprouts, you can get a massive selection of less obvious things, from soft furnishings to Christmas trimmings, indigestion mixture to fine wine and many shops will be stocking a good selection of gifts. There are a number of Christmas Fair's to be held in the village in November and December – some of which will have more unusual and interesting presents for you to buy.

So – give the city and its traffic jams and parking charges a miss – shop locally and help our village to stay vibrant and interesting. You can take your time, have a coffee break, chat to friends and when you're finished you can even walk home.

By Linda Cooke

Ruddington Christmas Market

St. Peter's Rooms and Church Street will be the venues for a Ruddington Christmas Market this year, all in aid of St Mary's Community Park Project.



We will have lots of brilliant local food, craft and boutique stalls available so you can 'shop local' this Christmas. The whole village is getting behind the event with some holding stalls and others donating prizes for the market stall raffle.



We've already had a meeting with an elderly gentleman (calling himself Mr Claus) who has lost 24 of his reindeers. Please be vigilant around the village during the run up to Christmas and see if you can spot any (there is a photo of one on our *facebook* page - **Ruddington Christmas Market 2013**). 'Like' the page on *facebook* to keep up with the fun and local Christmas events and information.

The village shopping list will be uploaded soon and a teaser from one stall each week, so you will see what wonderful things you can expect.

See you there on Saturday 30th November 4-6pm for mulled wine, Santa Claus and carol's from the Ruddington Choir.

Ruddington Group RDA celebrates 25 years

The Ruddington Group Riding for the Disabled (RDA) has just celebrated its Silver Jubilee with a special party on Saturday 19 October. The Group, which provides riding lessons and other equestrian activities to children from Nethergate School in Clifton, was established by Bradmore resident Diana Haddon and a group of likeminded friends in 1988.

The Group originally rode at a riding school in Ruddington but later moved to their current home at Bunny Hill Riding Centre. Diana – the Group's only remaining founder member – has seen dozens of riders and helpers come and go over the years. And she was thrilled to be reunited with former Ruddington Group RDA staff members and even some of the original Nethergate teachers at the 25th birthday party.

'Ruddington Group RDA has achieved a huge amount over the last 25 years,' says Diana. 'Our success in the RDA's Musical Ride Competitions stands out – especially our second place in the National Championships in 2004 for our version of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat". We've taken part in countless shows and festivals, triumphed at the RDA North Midlands Regional Awards and even set up our own achievement award in 2010, in memory of our former rider, Gold Gallagher, who sadly passed away in 2003.'

If you would like something included in the Village newsletter please talk to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk. The copy deadline for the December edition is Friday 15th November.

The first recipient of the Gold Gallagher Achievement Award, Yauvan Teeluck, embodies the essence of the RDA and what they aim to do. When Yauvan first started with the Ruddington Group RDA, he couldn't even sit up on his pony – he kept falling over its neck and couldn't hold himself upright. But thanks to their help and instruction, Yauvan was able to ride almost unaided when he left the Group a couple of years ago.



Diana Haddon cutting the 25th birthday cake at the party on Saturday 19 October

As you'd expect, a huge amount of time is spent by Diana and her fellow volunteers in raising vital funds to keep Ruddington Group RDA going. The Group holds an annual Spring Fayre at St Peter's Rooms, runs bucket collections at supermarkets and receives donations from businesses such as Boots and Nottingham City Transport.

Ruddington Diary - Continued

Wednesday 20th November

Ruddington & District Probus Club - "Oh no, not a Motor or Home" at Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 21st November

Action On Hearing Loss - Do you wear an NHS hearing aid? FREE walk-in hearing aid clinic. At St. Peter's Rooms between 11.30am and 12.30pm.

22nd & 23rd November

Mini-Market - at Ruddington Methodist Church 10am to 12noon.

Saturday 23rd November

Christmas Pop Up Boutique - at The Hermitage Centre 2 - 4 pm

Music for St. Cecilia Day - Ruddington & District Choral Society 3pm at St. Peter's Church. Tickets available from Perkins Hardware Hardware or choir members 0115 921 1451 £9.

Wednesday 27th November

Ruddington Gardners' Association - "Garden Ponds" by Linda Smith from Waterside Nursery, followed by complimentary refreshments @ The Hermitage 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Friday 29th November

A Christmas Concert - at Ruddington Framework Knitters's Museum, 7.30pm. Admission £6, phone 0115 984 5375.

Saturday 30th November

Ruddington W.I. - "Festive Fayre", between 10am and 12noon at St Peter's Rooms.

St. Mary's Park Xmas Market - at St. Peter's Rooms between 4pm and 6pm.

Saturdays & Sundays from 30th November to 22nd December

GCRN - Santa Specials see website for details www.gcrn.co.uk

December 2013

Sunday 1st December

Footpaths Walk – Ruddington Footpaths Preservation Group's organised walk. Old Road, The Spinney and Sharpill Wood. Meet on the Green at 2.15pm.

Tuesday 3rd December

Amenities Committee - at St. Peter's Rooms commencing at 7.30 pm. All meetings are open to the public where you can raise your views on any items on the agenda.

Wednesday 4th December

Ruddington Local History and Amenity Society - "Food and Drink in Tudor and Stuart Nottingham" 8pm at St. Peter's Rooms

Ruddington & District Probus Club - RAF Melton - Suppliers of aircraft to the world, at Ruddington Golf Club 12noon.

And it was the first local charity supported by Sainsbury's when they opened their store in the village in 2010.

'At the end of the day, Ruddington Group RDA is all about the children,' says Diana. 'Since 1988, we've taught around 300 children to ride. We've helped them take part in themed days, fun days, riding tests and competitions.'

There's a big party every Christmas and a Teddy Bear's Picnic each September. Currently, we teach eight Nethergate School pupils on Tuesday afternoons and they all really look

forward to their RDA sessions each week.'

For more information about Ruddington Group RDA, please contact Diana Haddon on 0845 450 6741 or visit www.northmidlandsrda.org.uk.

A large print copy of the Village Newsletter is available to read in the library

Ruddington Diary

November 2013

Sunday 3rd November

Footpaths Walk – Ruddington Footpaths Preservation Group's organised walk. Beeston Canal an River Trent Circular. Meet on the Green at 2.15pm.

Tea, Coffee & Cakes - at the Education Room (near the lake), Rushcliffe Country Park from 10am to 3pm. In aid of FoRCP.

Tuesday 5th November

Finance & Policy Committee - meeting at St. Peter's Rooms commencing at 7.30 pm. All committee meetings are open to the public where you can raise your views on any item on the agenda.

Women's Fellowship Group - "50 Things to do Before you Die" by Rev. Jeff Bramley, at the Methodist Church commencing at 2.30pm.

Wednesday 6th November

Ruddington Local History and Amenity Society - "The Heritage of St Ann's Allotments" at 8.00pm in St. Peter's Rooms. Refreshments are served after the lecture. Admission fee £2.00.

Ruddington & District Probus Club - Stimulating Career: Neurophysiology - at the Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 7th November

Notts Wildlife Trust - Talk on "The American Cascades" Washington, Oregon and North Carolina, the cascades lie on the "Ring of Fire". At 7.30pm West Bridgford Methodist Church. Admission adults £2.50, children free.

Saturday 9th November

Parish Council Surgery. 10am to 12 noon at St. Peter's Rooms. This is your opportunity to speak with your Parish, Borough and County Councillors about local issues.

Saturday 9th November

GCRN Firework Spectacular - Our firework events have become extremely popular, and now feature connecting services from Rushcliffe Halt. See www.GCRN.co.uk

Sunday 10th November

Old Bakehouse Tea Rooms - are

holding a 1940's "War Day" at St. Peter's Rooms. Craft fair, including charity stalls, from 10am to 3pm, with a 50p entry fee. Afternoon tea dance from 6 to 10pm, 1940's dress code optional £15 ticket. For information on stall hire and tickets contact the Old Bakehouse on 0115 9846126.

Tea, Coffee & Cakes - at the Education Room (near the lake), Rushcliffe Country Park from 10am to 3pm. In aid of FoRCP.

Tuesday 12th November

Rattle, Rhyme and Roll - in the Ruddington Library. For under 5's. Free. No booking required. Call 0115 9212309 for more information.

Scrabble - In Ruddington Library 2pm to 4pm. All players welcomed

Framework Knitters Public Meeting. What's happening at the Museum? Major Funding Secured. At the Museum Chapel 7.00 pm

Meeting with Businesses - Ruddington Parish Council invites local businesses to a meeting at St. Peter's Rooms. A light buffet at 6.00pm, the meeting starts at 6.30pm.

Wednesday 13th November

Ruddington W.I. - you are invited to a talk on "Living & Working as a Volunteer in Sri Lanka" by Pat Clarke, commencing at 7.15pm at St Peter's Rooms.

Thursday 14th November

Ruddington & District Ladies Probus Club - talk by Jo Carter "Between Stairs" between 2pm & 4pm at St. Peter's Rooms.

Friday 15th November

Ruddington Business Partnership - meets today at Philo's from 8am to 9am. Come along and meet other local businesses.

Tuesday 19th November

Parish Council Meeting - at St. Peter's Rooms commencing at 7.30 pm. All meetings are open to the public where you can raise your views on any items on the agenda.

Women's Fellowship Group - "Fat Dog Story" by Mr T Simpson, at the Ruddington Methodist Church 2.30pm

Continued inside