

Ruddington Parish Council

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Parking on Dutton's Hill



Just mentioning this within the village always evokes a debate about the rights and wrongs of allowing it at all. Unfortunately, it is allowed but with restrictions at certain times.

It is this fact that seems to be eluding some drivers resulting in frustration as the traffic flow through the village is being impeded because they have parked illegally. This has led to long queues in both directions which then impacts on other junctions around the area and delays journey times.

The Parish Council, in collaboration with other organisations, has now launched a campaign to remove this inconsiderate behaviour.

Through a variety of means we intend to advise/ remind people about the restricted times and the fact that they risk a Fixed Penalty Charge of £70. Then perhaps when they get a ticket they will understand that the signs in this area mean what they say! *By Barbara Breakwell*

Ruddington Women's Institute 90th

Wednesday 12th February marks the 90th Anniversary of the formation of Ruddington W.I. This will be celebrated with a party at St Peter's Rooms with invited guests including former Presidents & Officers from Notts Federation of W.I.'s & members of Ruddington Parish Council together with all present members.



The bulbs we set in October at St Peter's Rooms are now showing their faces.

Evelyn Bedford

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History Corner

Tim Birkin and the Bentley Blower

A famous Ruddington resident who died in 1933 was back in the headlines last August when his Bentley Blower, a supercharged racing car, sold at auction for £5,149,800 to a foreign bidder. However, the car's export was blocked by the UK government in the hope of keeping the vehicle – described as of '*outstanding significance*' – in the UK.

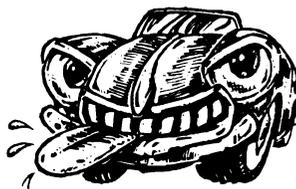
Sir Henry Ralph Stanley 'Tim' Birkin, 3rd Baronet of Ruddington Grange, was born in 1896 at the family seat. He was nicknamed Tim after the popular children's comic book character, Tiger Tim, and the name stuck with him throughout his life.

After a stint in the Royal Flying Corps during the Great War, Tim's racing career began in 1921, initially racing 3 and 4.5 litre Bentleys. Glamorous and fearless, he lived the life of a 1920s motor racing hero as one of the famed 'Bentley Boys'. In 1928, Tim decided to modify his 4.5 litre Bentley, fitting an enormous Roots-type supercharger, known as a blower, to the front of the car. Bentley Blower No. 1 was born in 1929, followed by another four modified vehicles.

Sporting his trademark blue and white spotted silk scarf, Tim raced his supercharged cars until Bentley Motors withdrew from racing at the end of 1930 and closed in 1931. During this time, he set a 137.96mph speed record at Brooklands, with the car producing 240hp – a highly impressive speed and power output for the time. The Bentley Blower was a huge and popular

success on the track, finishing second in the French Grand Prix at Pau in 1930.

After Bentley's demise, the intrepid aristocrat continued his racing career in other cars. But tragedy struck in 1933 when he suffered a serious burn which became infected and led to his death in a London nursing home. By this time, the Birkin fortune was all but gone, spent on developing the Bentley Blower and other vehicles, and Tim died penniless, aged just 35.



However, his name lives on and Tim has become something of a legend in the motor racing world. In 1995, a TV drama starring Rowan Atkinson was made about his life. Speaking to the BBC in August 2013, his great-great-nephew, Sir John Birkin, commented: '*He was a big hero...someone every schoolboy will have known about. I still meet men in their 80s who knew of him – they speak of him in awe and say they followed his story. He had the right image, was very English and very self-effacing.*'

Tiger Tim may be long gone but his legacy and that of his amazing supercharged car live on in Ruddington through two street names. Birkin Avenue is named for his family, whilst Paget Crescent was named after Dorothy Paget who financed the development of the Bentley Blower after Tim's own money ran out.

By Faye Stenson

New Beat Bobby for Ruddington

Our new Beat Manager is PC2465 Steven Butler. Steven has been in the Police 12 years. He started at Central Police Station in the City and has worked in Clifton, the Meadows, St. Ann's and Radford before transferring to the County Division in 2009 where he has worked at Beeston, Eastwood and West Bridgford.



He has already started and is really looking forward to working in Ruddington and getting to know all the local folk.

There is also a new Neighbourhood Policing Inspector for Rushcliffe - Craig Berry.

Contact:

DIAL 101 for non emergencies
PC2465 Steven Butler 07702 141 975
PCSO Vee White 07702 141 778
PCSO Jonny Wilkinson. 07525 226 593
In an emergency ring 999

West Bridgford School 75th Anniversary

This year pupils and staff at the West Bridgford School celebrate being open on this site for 75 years. We would like to invite our community to get involved. As a part of the celebrations we would

like to create a display of stories, photographs and memorabilia from past West Bridgford School pupils.

Can you help?

If you attended The West Bridgford School, or you know somebody who did, and would like to donate an old tie or blazer, photographs or stories of your time here, or would be happy to be interviewed, we would like to hear from you.

You may have a funny or thought-provoking story, a vivid memory of an event in school, a sporting win or memories about a teacher or friend. Whether you were a pupil here 10, 40, 50 or 75 years ago, we would appreciate hearing from you.

All you have to do is phone and ask to speak with Ms Williams on 0115 974 4488 or email your story and/or photograph titled '75th anniversary' to adminoffice@wbs.eu.com or jwilliams@wbs.eu.com.

Please spread the word.

Thank you

J Williams

Spot the Councillor!

The Parish Council has 16 members who represent you as residents of this village.

If you are unsure who they are a poster with their photos on is now in the library, in St Peter's Rooms and on the Parish Noticeboard.

Please feel free to approach any of them about anything to do with the village.

By Barbara Breakwell



Penny and Nick get Bronze

Ruddington ice dancer Penny Combes and her partner Nick Buckland have won a bronze medal at the European Championships.



Transplant recipient brings home the Gold...again!!

Mark Brown of Grange Avenue Ruddington returned recently from the 9th Winter World Transplant Games. La Chapelle d'Abondance in France with a gold in Team Curling. There were 214 competitors from 19 countries including 12 transplant recipients representing Great Britain.

La Chapelle d'Abondance (coincidentally only three miles down the valley from Chatel) was my sixth Games and I entered all the downhill events – Giant Slalom, Slalom, Parallel Slalom, and 150m Schuss, along with the more sedate Team Curling.

The curling had a close fought final end, with the judge measuring the final stones to declare Team GB had beaten France to the gold (by less than an inch!), retaining the title won two years earlier in Switzerland. He also came back with a silver medal in the team slalom.

Team GB returned home with 4 Gold, 6 Silver and 6 bronze medals, coming a credible 9th in the medal league table!

The Games provide a wonderful opportunity for transplanted athletes to enjoy their new lease of life and to demonstrate the benefits of organ donation, offering transplanted athletes an opportunity to live life to the full and give thanks to organ donor families on a world stage. Hopefully the publicity surrounding this international event will encourage others to sign on to the Organ Donor Register, but most importantly, discuss their final wishes with their families now.



Please help us to raise public awareness about transplantation and the Organ Donor register. For further information on how to sign the Organ Donor Register, visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk or call 0300 123 23 23 or text SAVE to 84118. Sign up today and give the gift of life.

Parish Councillors

Part 2 of our Easy Guide to the Parish Council

Who are these people and what do they do?

Parish Councillors are no different to you and me except that they have made the decision to 'get involved' and are fortunate enough to have been elected or co-opted on to the council.

The Parish Council is made up of 16 councillors, 4 from each 'ward', or area, in the village and they come on to the Parish Council in a number of different ways but mainly at election time (every four years) or if there is a casual vacancy. Please remember this is an 'easy' guide and there are a number of variations not necessarily included here.

Councillors are all ages and come with a very diverse range of life experiences – from nursing, accounting, private enterprise, teaching, the legal profession, home-making and more. Some are single, some parents/grandparents and whilst some have lived in the village for more than 25 years, others are new residents. More importantly, although some have experience of committees, etc., some don't but still bring life experiences and enthusiasm. The one thing they all have in common is that they are all committed to ensuring that Ruddington gets the best value for money it can afford.

So, how do you get on the Parish Council other than at election time?

Occasionally a councillor resigns due to personal circumstances and a casual vacancy is advertised. If the borough receives 10 or more requests for an election, one may be held but if the

borough does not receive requests for an election, the Parish Council can **co-opt**. It advertises the vacancy and asks that eligible members of the public apply within a specific timescale. A working group from the Parish Council then sits down with the candidate/s and after a chat and a few questions, votes to fill the vacancy with the most suitable candidate at that time. All very painless, straight forward and friendly – councillors don't bite and many have been through the process so are keen to ensure it is fair and not stressful.



Once a councillor, you will be asked to join one of the committees as well as attending Parish Council meetings – generally seven a year. Members of the public are also encouraged to attend these meetings so that they can see the councillors at work and ensure that their views are heard. Smaller groups / working groups are often formed to look deeper in to specific issues and can then report back to the appropriate committee in greater depth so this is an opportunity to really get your teeth in to something you feel strongly about.

Being a Parish Councillor can be a very rewarding and interesting role – keep your eyes open for a vacancy and get involved.

By Linda Cooke

Next month – Part 3 – Council Meetings

RVFC Help Headway

Ruddington Village F C were proud to hand over a cheque for £796.00 to Headway Nottingham.



After raising the funds through their annual Christmas events. This years charity being selected after being brought to our attention by the Free Masons, who have made a donation to our club this season.

Raising nearly £500.00 through the Christmas raffles from Ruddington Village F C (Senior's) and Ruddington Village Colts (Junior section). The remainder being raised on Boxing Day with a Charity Match, where players from the First, Reserves and Ladies teams played against Managers and guests.

Michael from Headway came along to collect the cheque and was very pleased, as the money raised will go towards keeping the Safe Soccer Scheme running for the rest of the year.

All at the club would like to thank those who helped make this possible: Ruddington Parish Council for use of the pitch; the Red Heart for allowing us

to make the raffle draws; and the many people who donated raffle prizes.

Ruddington Village have previously raised money for The Lincolnshire & Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance, Meningitis, British Heart Foundation to name a few.

Ruddington Village has a wide selection of age groups starting with the soccer school 4 to 7 year olds through to the seniors. if anyone is interested in being part of Ruddington Village Football Club they can contact the club secretary Andy Scott on 07910663158 for more information .

Have your Bike Post Coded Free

On Saturday 8th February the Police will be at St. Peter's Rooms from 10.00 - 12.00 offering free post coding for bikes.



Pub Plans

With seven pubs in Ruddington (EIGHT if you count The Nottingham Knight!) we're often reporting changes to our licensed premises here in the village.

This month remodeling takes place at The White Horse to make it a more 'family friendly' and food orientated inn. And you can't fail to have noticed The Red Lion's recent striking external makeover (see photo) to complement



an ongoing internal refurbishment programme.

But, subject to consent, plans are also afoot to make some structural changes to The Bricklayers Arms – with the new owners wishing to enlarge the public bar and to create a more extensive, comfortable and private outdoor seating area for its customers.

What's got the most people talking so far, however, is the proposal to change the historic name of "The Jolly Farmers Inn" on Wilford Road to "The Ruddington Arms." The plans only came to light when Scottish & Newcastle applied to erect new external signs – under this new name!

Feedback was swift but mixed on Ruddington's Facebook and Twitter sites. Dylan Wilson said *"Great idea! Sounds friendlier! And I love how the name relates to Ruddington."* Jessica McGowan posted *"It's plenty big*

enough to be a proper family friendly pub if someone commits to it. The name really doesn't matter."



However the majority of comments were against the name change. Sue Lees' reaction was typical: *"Why would a name make you use the pub? Get the ambience right and atmosphere then it might just work. It will all ways be the Jollys. Just leave the name alone!!!!"*

You can officially comment on these, and other applications, via the www.rushcliffe.gov.uk website.

By Graham Wright

Santa Run attracts record numbers

The December 2013 Nottingham Santa Run, held at Rushcliffe Country Park, attracted a record number of Santas last year. The event saw more than 300 running enthusiasts donning Santa costumes to tackle a 2.5 mile course around the Park on Sunday 15 December, all in aid of Rainbows Hospice in Loughborough.

Several other local Santa Runs also raised money for the hospice, which cares for terminally ill children and young people from the East Midlands area. And Ruddington's Santa runners alone are believed to have raised around £6,000 for the charity – a fantastic achievement. Well done to

everyone who donned a Santa suit at Rushcliffe Country Park last December!

The Nottingham Santa Run is an annual event that raises funds for a different charity each year. If you'd like to take part in 2014, details will be announced on the Rushcliffe Borough Council website later in the year. Entrance fees for 2013 were £10 for adults and £5 for children, which included a Santa suit.

If you'd like to know more about Rainbows Hospice and their work, please visit www.rainbows.co.uk.

By Faye Stenson

Local Schools

The children, staff and Governors at James Peacock School would like to thank everyone who voted for them in the recent Lloyds Bank Community Fund Programme. They were awarded £300 which will be used to support their Outdoor Enrichment Project.

The Friends of the School have lots of fund raising events planned for the coming year the first being a Food Fair on Saturday March 22nd. Watch for further details

St Peter's School are also raising funds to develop their playground and are delighted to have been selected by Asda to be part of their green token promotion. So if you shop there please put your token in their box as they could win £200 to help their project along.

By Barbara Breakwell

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

Wind turbines fail to pay their way

Ruddington's two commercial wind turbines, installed at Rushcliffe Country Park, made the national news last month when details of their woeful generation capacity were made public. Publishers including the BBC News and Telegraph websites were among those who latched on to the story, using it to fuel claims that smaller wind turbines will never be commercially viable.

And when you look at the figures, provided to the Nottingham Post after a Freedom of Information request, they may have a point! Rushcliffe Borough Council paid £30,000 (half of which came from taxpayers' pockets) to install the two turbines, which only managed to produce 477kWh of energy in 2012/13.



According to the Telegraph website, this amount of electricity is worth around £74 – meaning that, with current performance levels, it will take over 400 years for the turbines to turn a profit. Unfortunately, they only have a lifespan of 15 years.

The Council has defended the 2012/13 figures, blaming faults, maintenance costs and reduced feed-in tariff payments from the Government for the poor production and revenue levels. However, the turbines have not

generated to full capacity since 2010/11, when they produced 3,478kWh of energy – a rate that would still take 55 years to recoup their cost!

It's a shame that a scheme with such good 'green' intentions has failed to come to financial fruition.

By Faye Stenson

His & Hers Hair

You may have noticed a "new look" for one of Ruddington's three barbers' shops?

After over three years' trading as Flynn's, on 16 High Street, new owner David Moulton has rebranded the business "Moulty's". He's also changed the décor from grey and orange to a striking red and white – traditional barbers' colours!



David is no stranger to our village: "I worked for a couple of years at the old "Ruddy Chop" on Church Street during the nineties... eventually deciding to buy my own business back here in June last year" he says. "I come from a whole family of barbers and stylists so my career path's no real surprise!"

Now David splits his time between here and Derby – leaving manager Chris to look after things day to day in

Ruddington along with stylists Ryan and Joshua. You can even get your hair cut on a Sunday as Moulty's is open 7 days a week!

On the other side of the road, almost at The Green, "Hare & Rabbit" has just 'hopped up' at 33 High Street – in the former Shepshed Building Society premises. It has been launched by stylist Faye Chitty and is her first solo venture:



"I've been working at a hair salon in the city for ten years, but decided it was time to set up my own business in Ruddington" explains Faye.

"The unusual name evolved from a shortlist I'd put down and just seemed appropriate - so it somehow stuck!

"I use L'Oréal Professional colours and always keep myself trained on the latest styles and techniques. Just pop in and have a chat about what you'd like. I'm working on my own at first but might recruit some help if I need it."

Meantime Faye's already gaining local customers whilst putting the finishing touches to the contemporary décor and furnishings.

And she reminds us that it is a unisex salon – so men are welcome to Hare & Rabbit, too!

By Graham Wright

Rushcliffe – a great place to live

It's official – we live in one of the healthiest places in the country. A recent survey by the Municipal Journal rated Rushcliffe as the second best place in England for good health and wellbeing. The poll looked at factors such as the local economy, housing provision and illness levels across 324 English local authorities to reach its conclusions.

Even better, a second survey by the Halifax ranked Rushcliffe as the seventh best place to live across the whole of the UK. The bank's more wide-ranging research looked into areas such as crime figures, life expectancy and regional weather conditions before awarding our borough a place in the top 10.

All in all, it looks like we should be proud to live in such a healthy, safe and (sometimes) clement area of the country!

By Faye Stenson

Thanks to Local Businesses

I would like to express a huge thank you on behalf of all Ruddington residents, to all businesses for the beautiful window displays during advent.

Our shopkeepers entered into the spirit and did a wonderful job. They gave an enormous amount of pleasure to both young and old in our community, and we hope it now continues each year.

Thank you to all the businesses and well done.

Marilyn Hicks

Stop Press!

The roads in the centre of Ruddington are being resurfaced from Saturday 29th March until Sunday 13th April.

This will clearly cause disruption. Full details on the Parish Council website

www.RuddingtonParishCouncil.gov.uk

or in the Parish Council office.



Looking at the maps the following roads are being resurfaced. Please check the details for yourself.

Wilford Road:

from Clifton Road to Easthorpe Street.

Easthorpe Street:

from High Street to Rufford Road.

Church Street:

From High Street to ShawStreet/
Parkyns Street.

High Street:

From Easthorpe Street to Parkyns
Street.

Different roads are closed different days and, at times, it will not be possible to drive from one side of Ruddington to the other. Buses will also be affected. So please look for revised timetables and/or routes.

Please check the details yourself to make sure you can make the journeys you planned.

Ruddington Diary - Continued

Thursday 20th February

Ruddington W.I. - Craft and social meeting, in the Lounge in St. Peter's Rooms 2pm till 4pm.

Friday 21st February

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

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd February

GCRN - Half-term running days 11am, 1pm and 3pm departures. See www.gcrn.co.uk for full details.

Tuesday 25th February

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 26th February

Framework Knitters Museum - Hand Knit Socks workshop, 9.30am to 3.30pm. Cost £50 please see www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk for details.

Ruddington Gardener's Association - An illustrated lecture "The Flora of South Africa" by Dr Peter Cooke, followed by complimentary refreshments. The Hermitage 7pm for 7.30pm.

Friday 28th February

Framework Knitters Museum - "The Lace Makers - The Forgotten Story of English Lace" screening of renowned film made by Edward Jarvis illustrating the history of lace particularly in Nottingham. At 7.30pm Old Chapel, Chapel Street, tickets £4. Contact the Museum or Kathy on 0115 984 5375.

March 2014

Sunday 2nd March

Footpaths Walk - Ruddington Footpaths Preservation Group organised. Normanton-on-the-Wolds to Cotgrave Forest. 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 4th March

Meeting with Businesses - Ruddington Parish Council invites all local businesses to a meeting at St. Peter's Rooms to discuss local issues. A light buffet will be served at 6pm, the meeting starting at 6.30pm.

Wednesday 5th March

Ruddington Local History and Amenity Society - Annual General Meeting followed by Members Evening at 8pm in St. Peter's Rooms.

Ruddington District Probus Club - UK Enigma exposed. At Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon

Thursday 6th March

Notts Wildlife Trust - "A Naturalist in Scotland's Highlands and Islands" talk by Dr. David Glynn Fox. At West Bridgford Methodist Church from 7.30pm. Admission fee £2.50, children free.

If you would like something included in the Village Newsletter please talk to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk.

The copy deadline for the March edition is 16th February.

**The March edition of the Village Newsletter
will be out on Monday 3rd March.**

Ruddington Diary

February 2014

Sunday 2nd February

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

Footpaths Walk - Ruddington Footpaths Preservation Group organised. Nine Stiles returning via Bridlepath. Meet on the Green at 2.15pm.

Monday 3rd February

Ruddington Fun - Annual General Meeting, 7pm at St. Peter's Rooms. Contact

ruddingtonfun@virginmedia.com.

Tuesday 4th February

St. Mary's Community Park Project - Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm at St. Peter's Rooms, Ruddington. Contact

newplayground@ymail.com or
www.facebook.com/StMarysCommunityParkProject.

Wednesday 5th February

Ruddington Local History and Amenity Society - "The Rise and Fall of the Harpur Crewe Family of Calke Abbey" at 8pm in St. Peter's Rooms.

Ruddington District Probus Club - "Child of your ancestors" Looking at researching your family tree. At Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 6th February

Ruddington W.I. - Craft and social meeting, in the Lounge in St. Peter's Rooms 2pm till 4pm.

Notts Wildlife Trust - "An Inordinate Interest in Beetles" a presentation by Chris Terrell-Nield, reserve warden at Bunny Wood. At West Bridgford Methodist Church from 7.30pm. Admission fee £2.50, children free.

Tuesday 11th February

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

Rattle, Rhyme and Roll - in the Ruddington Library. Have fun with your little ones for under 5's and meet other parents and make new friends. The sessions are free and no booking required. Call 0115 9212309 for more information.

Wednesday 12th February

Ruddington W.I. - 90th Anniversary Party. At 7.15pm at St. Peter's Rooms.

Thursday 13th February

Ruddington & District Ladies' Probus Club - Winter Lunch, venue to be announced.

Thursday 13th February

Framework Knitters Museum

Dr Jill Barber presents "The Ranters have Come: the Framework Knitters and their Chapel" the story of Primitive Methodism and its impact on our village.

At 2.30pm Old Chapel, Chapel Street, tickets £5. Contact the Museum or Kathy on 0115 984 5375.

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th February

GCRN - Half-term running days 11am, 1pm and 3pm departures. See www.gcrn.co.uk for full details.

Sunday 16th February

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

Wednesday 19th February

Ruddington District Probus Club - Headway Nottingham, the Presidents Charity. At Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 20th February

Action On Hearing Loss - NOT ON IN FEBRUARY

Continued inside