

THE RUDD

Interview with the Inspector

During the last six months, Ruddington seems to have experienced more criminal activity than usual. As well as the usual vehicle and shed break-ins, we've reported burglaries, local traders being targeted and hanging basket thefts. We've even had a distraction thief being wrestled to the ground.



But is it really that bad and, if so, is a lack of local policing to blame? Posts on Ruddington social media would suggest many residents and traders think so. Graham Wright, who runs the local website RUDDINGTON.info, had the chance to put villagers' concerns to Inspector Craig Berry of Rushcliffe Police.

"If there's a perception of a problem in an area then my job is to listen and try to understand what that problem is," says Inspector Berry. "Then my team and the partner agencies work

together to try and resolve it. We have dedicated neighbourhood policing staff, PCSOs and police constables allocated throughout the area."

We don't have space in The Rudd to reproduce the whole interview, but you can read it at RUDDINGTON.info. However, we've printed a few of the questions asked and Inspector Berry's replies overleaf.

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Carla O'Brien said: "We need more police or community volunteer presence. What's the plan for this?"

Inspector Berry answers: "You have two PCSOs and one PC responsible for Ruddington, East Leake and surrounding villages. We have extra staff available, so I can move them depending on the area's needs. We're a settled and experienced team but we're also expanding, with two new PCSOs and two new PCs joining us shortly."

The Inspector then said that only 14 crimes have been reported in Ruddington so far in 2018. However, this figure comes in the wake of a period when reported offences were higher than usual.

"In December, we had four house burglary reports, for which we've identified a suspect, as well as the attempted burglary at the jeweller's, the cooking oil thefts and the citizen's arrest from November. When you add these together, you start building a picture of a problem that perhaps doesn't bear out statistically."

Nicola Pengelly isn't convinced: "Ruddington does seem to be more of a target since the Police Station has gone. What happened to the PCSOs that used to patrol here?"

Inspector Berry replies: "Today, we're technology enabled – meaning we can work from anywhere. My staff can come to Ruddington and patrol just as they've always done. They spend their entire tour of duty in their policing areas and take their technology with them so they can be out covering their communities."

Richard Thomas commented: "I understand the ever-growing pressure on police resources. I wonder what initiatives could be looked at? Do we have CCTV?"

Inspector Berry replies: "When there's an area impacted by crime, we patrol more and offer crime prevention advice. CCTV can be useful in crime investigation and as a deterrent. Ruddington doesn't have CCTV, like most villages. There are conversations that can be had with the Parish Council about that – but it has to be funded locally."

Inspector Berry also explained the best ways to contact the police: "If someone is threatening, or committing a crime, dial 999. But if it's a non-emergency, you can ring 101 at any time. You can also contact us via social media, but not in an emergency."

Since our interview, there's been a notable increase in the police presence in Ruddington. PCSO Kathy Lucock has visited St Peter's Rooms to meet the public and attend the "Pub Watch" meeting. We've also had Special PCs Coster and Coffey (yes, their REAL names!) over from West Bridgford to patrol the village.

Whether current police resources will allow "Bobbies on the beat" to patrol here regularly, we'll have to wait and see. But, after our "Interview with the Inspector", it's certainly been a good start – and a move that's sure to be welcomed by residents.

Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info, with input from Faye Stenson

Cheque presentation for Hermitage Preschool

Raffles held during the summer and Christmas Fayres have raised £368, which has been donated to the Parish Council's nominated charity, The Hermitage Preschool on Wilford Road.



Councillor Annette Auckland, a member of the Events Sub-Committee, presented the cheque to Tracey Jukes, Supervisor at the Hermitage Preschool. Tracey said the money will be used to update the Preschool's range of educational toys.

“Ruddington Wrinklies” enjoy Christmas

Christmas 2017 may be a fading memory, but for some of Ruddington's older residents, a fantastic festive time is still fresh in the mind. The Parish Council was told: “Whilst we all knew that Ruddington is a grand place to live, the Christmas offerings to the Ruddington Wrinklies proved just how good it was. It all started on Thursday 14th December with the

Thursday Luncheon Club in St Peter's Rooms.

Tables were decoratively laid with wine glasses, crackers and tins of sweets, and a very nice (too hot to eat) meal was served, followed by Christmas pudding, brandy sauce and custard. Afterwards, there was carol singing accompanied by a Wrinklie who 'couldn't play the black notes' and a quiz that taxed the brains of the audience. A free raffle gave us all presents to take home – all organised by Muriel and her 'little helpers'.

On Christmas Day, another set of residents and friends were catered for by folks from the Baptist Church in their Hub. A fantastic turkey meal was cooked and served by Kirsty and her 'little helpers', followed by either trifle or Christmas pudding and cream. This was followed by happy chatter until it was time to go home, clutching our Christmas presents and a little something for tomorrow.

Thank you Kirsty and Muriel – you made a lot of Ruddington residents very happy.”

Editor's Note: There are lots of activities for older people in Ruddington throughout the year. For details, please see the Diary page and visit the [‘Get Involved’](#) section (under the ‘Community’ menu) on the [Parish Council website](#).

Good luck Penny & Nick!

We offer our best wishes to our local ice dance duo, Penny Coomes and Nick Buckland, as they compete this month at the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang.

Barbara Breakwell

Holocaust Memorial Day

Ruddington Parish Council marked Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) this year with a special display in St Peter's Rooms. This ran from Monday 22nd January 2018 until Saturday 27th January 2018, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz in 1945.

The theme this year was "The Power of Words," so the display was made up of posters, poetry, testimonies, booklets, photographs and cards detailing these tragedies.



Ruddington Parish Council's Admin Assistant, Alison Jackson said, "There's been a steady stream of visitors coming into St Peter's Rooms to view our display. It's good to see that people are still interested in learning about these terrible events as we should never forget the horror of what happened".

The Council intends to promote HMD next year and, if there's enough interest, may extend its involvement. It would be really remarkable if we were able to provide a personal, Ruddington 'feel' to the event.

So if you know of any local connection to the Holocaust or any of the other genocides, or you're simply interested in helping or providing information, please contact the Parish Council Office.

Councillor Paul Reedman

Twining visit planned for May

Arrangements are now well in hand for the springtime visit of our friends from Grenay, Ruddington's twin town in France. About 25 young people aged from 12 to 16 years of age, accompanied by adult chaperones including the Deputy Mayor of Grenay, will visit us from Thursday 10th May until Sunday 13th May.

During their time with us, the Twining Sub-Committee will co-ordinate events and entertainment. However, the main thrust will be football. Our guests are members of youth football teams in France and at 10.30am on Saturday 12th May, they'll be playing two matches at Jubilee Playing Fields against teams from Ruddington Colts.

One game will be an eight-a-side, under 13s affair and the other will be an 11-a-side, under 15s match. We're really looking forward to this trip and we hope you'll come along to watch the football and support Ruddington Colts.

If you have any ideas about how to promote twinning further, or if you're interested in helping out with activities, please contact the Twining Sub-Committee via the Parish Council Office.

Councillor Paul Reedman

More Councillor vacancies

There are now four vacancies on the Parish Council as Councillors John Noble (Flawford Ward) and Robin Crinage (Manor Ward) have resigned. Councillors Marilyn Robinson and George Ellison resigned in December 2017. The latter two vacancies will be filled by co-option as an election wasn't requested.

The deadline for requesting an election in the Flawford Ward has passed, but you have until Friday 9th February to request one for Manor Ward. An election will be held if 10 electors from the Ward put in a written request to the Returning Officer at Rushcliffe Borough Council by that date.

Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Allen Wood, said "I would like to thank John and Robin for their contributions whilst on the Parish Council. They'll both be missed."

If you're interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Parish Council office for an informal chat with the Clerk.

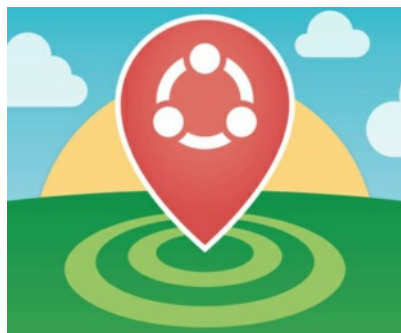
Ruddington App success

You may have noticed in the last few months that there's a dedicated mobile app just for Ruddington. The "Ruddington App" is the brainchild of resident Mike Gaunt, who launched the service back in August.

Available on Android and Apple devices, it provides local news and offers from village businesses, community and

events notifications, and a directory of Ruddington's shops, bars, cafes and tradespeople.

Mike, a teacher by profession, based the idea on a similar service for Calverton, which his business partner launched last June. The Ruddington App has been downloaded over 1,000 times since its launch, and Mike is encouraged by the positive response.



Says Mike: "It's been really well received, with some fantastic feedback so far. It's nice to know that residents and business owners are enjoying it and that it's providing something of a service to the village".

With the support of wife Jen, who owns Ruddington's successful catering business, Split Screen Coffee, Mike hopes to grow the app even further, and also create versions for other communities.

He adds: "We launched an app for Southwell in January, and Radcliffe will be online soon too."

The Ruddington App is free to download from the App Store and Google Play.

Mark Pinks

Ruddington Village Plan: update and news

Do you remember receiving your RVP booklet last summer with the results of the 2015 questionnaire and the resulting consultation in 2016?

Members of the RVP Steering Group used the results to gather together the community's opinions and aspirations. The Village Plan is the culmination of their discussions.

You might be thinking: "What's been going on since then?" You'll be glad to hear we've made quite a lot of progress!



The members of the RVP Steering Group have been meeting monthly. We're also making regular contact with Parish, Borough and County Councillors, whose input, advice and involvement is crucial to the Plan's success.

Some of the more ambitious aspirations will take years to come to full fruition. Many depend on the involvement and cooperation of other local organisations; others are shorter term and can be achieved relatively quickly.

Current discussion points and key areas for action include:

- Adult Education "taster" sessions, once the library has reopened. Likely topics include "Getting to grips with your iPad", Photography, Local History and Researching your Family Tree.
- Updating the existing (but very old) Village Trail to include buildings and sites of historical interest displayed on information boards and leaflets.
- Investigating the sociable and accessible game of petanque (a form of outdoor bowls/boules) to be played on a suitably landscaped area of the Village Green; "Garden on the Green".
- Convening a meeting with the County Council Highways department to discuss and make progress on a range of pressing issues affecting Ruddington.
- Tackling concerns about derelict buildings
- Working closely with the Neighbourhood Plan Project Team regarding housing developments, Green Belt and future proposals.

Hopefully, this has given you an insight into the RVP's work. Look for more updates and progress reports in future newsletters.

If you no longer have your copy of the plan or have moved to the village recently, you can find more information and a copy of the plan at www.ruddingtonvillageplan.org.uk.

Gavin Walker, Chair of the RVP Steering Group

Long may they continue

In 2009, when I was a Parish Councillor, the then-Deputy Clerk Linda Cooke and myself campaigned to reintroduce a village newsletter. Residents had often asked us why we no longer had a village newsletter after The (original) Rudd ceased publication in November 2008 after 17 years.

Eight years ago this month, in February 2010, a “new” Village Newsletter, produced by the Parish Council, appeared. The first issue reported on Ruddington Medical Centre’s re-location to temporary accommodation on the Green to enable the building to be extended.

I’m currently researching the history of James Peacock School as part of its 50th birthday celebrations. One element of my research has involved reading all the copies of The Rudd and the Village Newsletter since they started in 1991. Every issue provides a snapshot of Ruddington life, including snippets about James Peacock.

I’d like to thank everyone who’s ever been involved in the production of these publications.

Barbara Breakwell

Library reopening

Don’t forget that Ruddington Library will reopen at 9am on Saturday 17th February after a two month refurbishment.

Inspire, which runs the library on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council, has

been developing an inviting and modern space for reading, learning, and cultural and community activities.

Changes to the library will include an inviting modern layout and extensive re-decoration, new shelving, essential electrical work, new flooring and a new automatic door.

If you’ve not been to the library before, or haven’t visited for a while, why not pop in and take a look?

Best on the buses!

Regular bus users will know that the village is well served by the 10 and 3 buses – and now two of the drivers have been recognised for their services in the village and beyond.

Badar Sheikh is a familiar face on the Green 10, and received 2017’s first ‘seasonal driver’ award from Nottingham City Transport in the early part of last year.

Badar scored 91% during his mystery traveller assessment, helping him scoop the award. He was also one of the first drivers of the new eco-friendly buses, which were introduced on the route a few months ago.

Well done also to Ian Neale of the Navy 3, who was the winner of the final ‘seasonal driver’ award, rounding off last year nicely for Ruddington’s bus drivers.

Both men were shortlisted for the 2017 NCT Driver of the Year competition – thanks to them both for all their hard work for our community.

Kay Garrett

Ruddington Diary

February 2018

Sunday 3rd February

Open Day - Notts Hospice, 384 Woodborough Road, Nottingham, NG3 4JF. 10am to 12 noon. A chance to learn more about what Notts Hospice do and the volunteering opportunities on offer. Call in for tea, biscuits and a chat.

Sunday 4th February

Ruddington Footpath Preservation Group – Country Park to Bradmoor Moor and Long Farm Track. Meet on The Green at 2.15pm.

If you'd like something included in The Rudd, please contact the Parish Council office.

The copy deadline for the next edition is 15th of the month.

Monday 5th February

Ruddington Craft Group – Parchment Cards. 10am to 12 noon, St Peter's Rooms (Main Hall). £3.00 cost to cover tuition, materials and refreshments. Newcomers welcome – contact Christine Gibson on 07967 245 308 if you'd like to come along.

Tuesday 6th February

Ruddington Methodist Church Women's Fellowship – 2.30pm. Rev Simon Rose – Quiz. All are welcome to join us.

Saturday 10th February

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

Wildlife Watch Group 'Winter's Water Birds' – 11am to 1pm, meet at Education Room, Rushcliffe Country Park. See who's making a splash this winter in the country park. Hail a Heron, Call a Coot or Spy a Swan. Members and non-members welcome. Under-8s to be accompanied by an adult. Please come dressed for the weather! Suggested donation: £2 per session. For more information, please contact Geoff East on 07804 297041 / geoff.east@virginmedia.com.

Wednesday 14th February

Amenities Committee 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 agenda items.

W.I. Meeting – 'St Valentine's Day Surprise' – at St Peter's Rooms commencing 7.15pm.

Thursday 15th February

The Ear Foundation – Do you wear an NHS hearing aid? Come to our FREE walk-in hearing aid clinic. In St. Peter's Rooms between 11.30am to 12.30pm. No appointment required.

Ruddington Folk & Blues Night – 8pm at The Country Cottage Hotel. Over two hours of live music & song in this relaxing and comfortable venue. An audience of 43 in December loved this local event.

Friday 16th February

Ruddington Business Partnership – FREE networking today and every 3rd Friday of the month, at The Ruddington Arms, 8am to 9am. Come along and meet other local businesses. No booking required.

Monday 19th February

Ruddington Craft Group – Beading. 10am to 12 noon, St Peter's Rooms (Main Hall). £3.00 cost to cover tuition, materials and refreshments. Newcomers welcome – contact Christine Gibson on 07967 245 308 if you'd like to come along.

Tuesday 20th February

Ruddington Methodist Church Women's Fellowship – 2.30pm. Peter Hammond – Lotions, Potions and Cure-alls. All are welcome to join us.

Thursday 22nd February

Fun Pirate Crafts for Kids at the Framework Knitters Museum – 11am to 3pm. Part of the Griswold Gang programme of school holiday activities. Fun for kids of all ages. £1 per child. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Tuesday 27th February

Scrabble – in Ruddington Library 2pm – 4pm

Environment & Policy Committee 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 agenda items.

Wednesday 28th February

Bombs to Butterflies 20th Anniversary Talk – 1.30pm in the classroom at Rushcliffe Country Park. In 1998, the Friends of the Country Park were formed with just 6 members. Anyone who's interested in seeing how The Friends have grown in numbers and helped develop the park over the last 20 years is invited to this talk.

Ruddington Gardeners' Association – Annual General meeting followed by Cheese and Wine at The Hermitage. 7pm for 7.30pm.

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

March 2018

Sunday 4th March

Ruddington Footpath Preservation Group – Gotham/ Gotham Hill Circular. Meet on The Green at 2.15pm.

Monday 5th March

Ruddington Craft Group – Spyrelli. 10am to 12 noon, St Peter's Rooms (Main Hall). £3.00 cost to cover tuition, materials and refreshments. Newcomers welcome.

Ruddington Open Gardens returns!

Following the success of the first event in summer 2016, there'll be a second Ruddington Open Gardens in June 2018, which we hope will be even bigger and better than before.

The date is the weekend of 23rd and 24th June, so please make a note in your diaries now! Once again, all proceeds from the event will be shared between Save the Children and Action for Children. If any Ruddington residents would like to open their gardens, please contact me as soon as possible. Your garden doesn't have to be big or splendid – we're not looking for prize-winning exhibits, just pleasant gardens that visitors will enjoy wandering around.



In fact, last time, some of the smallest gardens were amongst the most popular. Even a hanging basket display at the front of your house would make a welcome addition to the programme!

Also, if any village organisations (Brownies, Cubs, WI, church groups etc) would like to be involved in whatever way, please let me know. We want to

make this a truly village-wide affair! Hopefully, we'll have various stalls on offer as well as live musical entertainment and refreshments on both days.

If you'd like to be involved, please email je.piggott@btinternet.com or contact me via the Parish Office. Many thanks.

Jane Piggott

Food Fair

On Sunday 22nd April, the Friends of James Peacock School are holding their Annual Food Fair. The event will run from 11 am to 2pm at the school in Manor Park. If you'd like to have a stall at the event, the cost is £10 and a donation of a raffle prize. Stalls must be food-related. If interested, please email bell.catherine1@sky.com.

Barbara Breakwell

On your marks...

Runners get set... the popular annual Rushcliffe 10k and Funrun is returning to Rushcliffe Country Park, this year with an added option of 5k for participants.

Delivered by Perfect Motion Sports Marketing, the official race charity this year is Cerebral Palsy Sport.

The race is regularly supported by hundreds of running enthusiasts, with the 5k event opening up a new opportunity for getting involved. The Funrun is a 2.5km course, giving runners the chance to enjoy the beautiful scenery at the Country Park.

If you'd like to find out more, or to book a place, visit www.rushcliffe10k.co.uk.

Kay Garrett

Fairtrade Fortnight

Our local Co-op will be supporting Fairtrade Fortnight, which runs from Monday 26th February until Sunday 11th March.

Along with campaigners, other businesses, schools and places of worship across the country, the Co-op will be showing their support for the farmers and workers who grow our food in developing countries.

Barbara Breakwell

Dogs Trust training classes

In February 2017, Dogs Trust is launching Dog School Nottinghamshire to offer training classes and lessons to local pet owners.

The school is part of a significant initiative aimed at preventing problem behaviours and supporting dog owners, to help keep more dogs in their homes. There are currently 22 successful schools across the country.

The Nottingham team, led by Head Coach Chelsea Martin, provides a fun, stimulating and informative environment for dogs to learn basic obedience and household manners, whilst working to identify and prevent unwanted behaviours.

Dog School classes are unique in that they combine training skills with exercises to prepare your dog for everyday life.

Classes are offered for puppies, rescue dogs and adult dogs. Each class session has two trainers present and a

maximum of six dogs in attendance, so owners will receive lots of individual help and support.

The nearest Dog School to Ruddington will be in West Bridgford. Classes will alternate between the Poppy and Pint pub and St. Saviour's Church, beginning on Saturday 10th February and running from 10am to 11am. The classes will then be ongoing, with consecutive sets of five week courses.

For more information, please visit www.dogstrustdogschool.org.uk/dog-school/nottinghamshire/ or call 0115 855 9372.

Film Nights raise £467.62 for Poppy Appeal

Ruddington Royal British Legion are delighted that the Film Nights held in Ruddington last year have raised £467.62 for the 2017 Poppy Appeal.

Each film night was very successful with themed refreshments served before the start of each event.

Thanks go to everyone who supported the Film Nights and, in particular, to Perkins Hardware who kindly sold tickets.

Following this success, the branch is pleased to announce that three more Film Nights are planned for 2018. These will be held on Saturday 10th March, Saturday 16th June and Saturday 15th December, with the last event being a 1940s Night. Film titles will be announced soon!

Louise Mote, Branch Secretary

Getting set for Uganda

2018 is certainly shaping up to be a big year for Ruddington's Mustard Seed Project! This is the fundraising group set up by James Peacock Infant School teachers Sally Squires and Jayne Henson, inspired by their visit to Uganda in the summer of 2016.



Following the Project's formal establishment as a registered charity, and the election of a board of trustees, they're returning to Uganda to visit the communities they're supporting.

JPS assistant head teacher Sally and teaching assistant Jayne, along with St Peter's Junior School Deputy Head, Ian Mawer, and Professor Louise Mullany from the University of Nottingham, are all flying out there at the end of March. Mustard Seed Project trustee, Charlene Robinson, told us: "As well as doing hands-on work on the sustainable projects we're sponsoring (including building raised beds to grow veg at the school on Tisai Island), Sally and Jayne are going to be leading a conference for 300 Ugandan teachers to share teaching styles. Louise is taking part in a conference in Kampala on African

women's leadership and empowerment. Ian will be completing fieldwork and taking photos to help document the work we're doing."

The team are also working on the enormous challenge of filling a 40 foot container with school and medical equipment, toys, clothes, books, etc. Charlene says: "Please get in touch if you have something to donate. We're also looking for strong men and women to support us with the heavy lifting – even better if you're strong and own a van! Everything needs to get from people's homes to the warehouse, then from the warehouse to the container. If you can help, please contact us on info@mustardseeduganda.com."



Something else to look forward to is another "Knickers for Knowledge" fashion show! This will be returning on Friday 9th March – and sold out last year – so keep an eye out for information about how to get tickets. As before, they're asking for donations of second hand bras and new knickers to enable the girls and women in Uganda to attend school all month long. "We'd also like any donations of children's books to fill the book shelves

in the school” continues Charlene. “The bra bar will be returning, as will the ‘fountain of fizz’, not forgetting the opportunity to bag a fashion bargain.”

The Mustard Seed Project has also revealed the exciting news that it’s secured a book deal!

‘Footprints from Uganda’ will be available in spring 2019 and will include stories and letters which have been shared between children in Nottinghamshire and Teso, Uganda.

It promises to provide a real insight into the differences and similarities between communities – and hopefully inspire greater understanding.

Charlene concludes: “Finally a huge thankyou to everyone who bought chickens, goats, sheep and cows for the families on Tisai Island – they were very well received and its lovely to think that we enabled such unusual presents at Christmas.”

Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info

Third charity shop for Ruddington

Our Nottinghamshire Hospice and Honeycomb Christian Charity shops will soon have company – as an established national charity for vulnerable children and young people prepares to open an outlet in the village.

The Children’s Society, which already has half a dozen branches in Nottinghamshire, will soon be fundraising from 2 Easthorpe Street in Ruddington.

Apart from a few months as Crusader Gifts’ clearance shop, this unit has more

or less sat empty since Something Special moved out of there around two years ago.

The Children’s Society’s Regional Retail Manager, Dominique Scott, said: “We’ll be selling good quality ladies, gents and kids clothing and accessories, bric a brac, books, media, toys and greetings cards. Our lease is currently being finalised and as soon as we have possession of the keys we’ll advertise some donation days. In the meantime, we’ll gladly accept donations at our Compton Acres shop.

“We’re also currently appealing for volunteers to join our team and help support and run the shops at both Ruddington and Compton Acres – serving customers, processing donations, steaming, display work, etc”.

The Children’s Society was founded in 1881 by a Sunday school teacher who discovered two missing children from his class begging for food. In partnership with the Church of England, Edward Rudolph set up The Children’s Society – starting up children’s homes around the country.

“Today our vision is a country where children are free from disadvantage” explains Dominique. “We worked with over 13,000 vulnerable children and young people last year, while our campaign wins will bring change to more than 3 million.”

The shop’s opening date is still to be confirmed. Meantime, if you’re interested in helping out, please contact Dominique now on 0771 398 4736, or you can email her at dominique.scott@childrenssociety.org.uk.

Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info

New marching band in Ruddington?

Would you like to perform in a new marching band? Ruddington British Legion would love to form a band!



We invite musicians of all levels and all ages to join us and create great music, meet new people and be a key part of the annual Remembrance Parade. And who knows, we might even perform at other events too!

If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Malcolm Greenberry on 07779 740 692, who'll be very happy to chat with you and explain the next steps.

Louise Mote, Branch Secretary

Rushcliffe Mistletoe Survey

Mistletoe is strongly associated with Christmas, but did you know Mistletoe grows in Rushcliffe?

Last year, Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group (RNCSIG) carried out a Mistletoe Survey, which was very successful and generated over 25 records, 14 of which were from locations in West Bridgford.

We now know that mistletoe grows in Aslockton, Cropwell Bishop, Edwalton, Gamston, Keyworth, Lady Bay, Radcliffe

on Trent, Ruddington, Tollerton and West Bridgford. RNCSIG now wants to find out how common it is in these areas and if it grows elsewhere in Rushcliffe.

We're interested in mistletoe because it supports a wide range of wildlife, some of which can be rare and adds value to the biodiversity of an area. Winter is a particularly good time to spot it in the trees and it has a characteristic appearance.

If you're new to the survey and suspect that mistletoe is growing in a local tree, please let RNCSIG know by completing the online record at www.survey-monkey.co.uk/r/R_mistletoe. Also, if you participated last year and spotted some new locations, we'd be very pleased to hear from you.

Some mistletoe facts:

- In Britain, it grows mainly in the South West Midlands of England.
- Most of the seasonal mistletoe harvest comes from traditional apple orchards, apple being mistletoe's favourite host .
- Mistletoe's other primary habitat is in gardens where it's usually planted on fruit, particularly apple trees. It also grows on many other trees including pear, lime and silver-birch.
- There's some evidence that mistletoe is species-specialist, meaning that its seeds germinate more readily on the species the parent plant is growing on.
- It's a parasitic plant and is known as a hemiparasite as it still uses photosynthesis to create energy.

Gordon Dyne

Jasper's Café to close

It's less than a year since Ruddington's newest coffee house began trading on Dutton's Hill. Yet, since March 2017, Jasper's Café has managed to establish itself as one of our most popular village venues to meet up for a cuppa, a chat and a bite to eat. Now it will have to close.



Jasper's was the idea of Paul Carver and Cathy Hatfield who've always dreamed of owning their own coffee shop. As Bar Six traded mostly in the evenings, they thought it made perfect use of a very suitable building during the day for this contemporary café – and it seems they were right!

Its popularity has since enabled them to extend opening hours to seven days a week. But a redevelopment of the premises will mean they can no longer continue to trade from there.

A Facebook post informed customers: "It is with extreme sadness we have to announce that on Friday 2nd February 2018 Jasper's Café will close its doors for the final time. Paul, Cathy, Mark and the Jasper's crew would like to thank all our

valued customers and friends for their continued support and help over the last 10 months in making Jasper's the fantastic success it has become.

"We are currently trying to source new premises but it seems unlikely that we will be able to remain in Ruddington given the shortage of suitable properties."

It continues: "We will still be accepting orders for cakes and cupcakes and hope to be fully operational again soon. It has been a privilege and pleasure making so many new friends and I hope we will be able to welcome you all to a new Jasper's somewhere soon."

It appears the changes at 6 Wilford Road have been precipitated by the departure of John Noble and Lucy Would from Bar Six. This is now in the hands of Jack Robson, who runs McArtney's Catering. Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info

Parking update

The December 2017 traffic patrol stats for the village were:

- 284 visits
- 469 observations
- 45 penalty charge notices

Whilst there wasn't a big increase in the number of visits from November's figures, the amount of observations and PCNs issued almost doubled.

Is this the Paddington Train?

Yes it is!

60163 “Tornado” will be blowing into Ruddington this month – and that’s the locomotive featured in the film “Paddington 2”! It’s coming here as the star attraction during the second weekend in February at Ruddington’s Great Central Railway.

You may or may not know that this A1 Peppercorn Class is Britain’s newest steam train, built only in 2008. As part of the celebrations for her 10th year in service she will be appearing in our village for the first time.

Despite her young age, Tornado is already iconic as a regular sight on mainline services and also having found fame on the television in “Top Gear” and “Tornado: The 100 MPH Steam Engine” – as well as the big screen appearance in the 2017 movie



“Paddington 2”. She’s also the first steam locomotive to reach 100mph in 50 years – although we’re assured she won’t be attempting that during her visit here!

However, thanks to GCRN and the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, you will be able to travel on one of eight, rather more sedate, return journeys from Ruddington to Loughborough Junction behind this locomotive – with four trains per day on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th February 2018.

Booking details can be found by visiting GCRN’s website at www.gcrn.co.uk. Tickets are on sale now, priced at £15 for adults and £8 for children over 3 (under 3s are free but must be on an adult knee) for a return trip, with a strictly limited number of Day Rover tickets available for each day at £50. Advance online booking is strongly advised.

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