Ruddington cycle recycling!

Villagers are already getting into the Tour of Britain spirit – by saving a bike from the scrapheap that will now be turned into a colourful creation to celebrate this year’s race passing right through Ruddington.

Competitors in the prestigious event will be racing via our village on Saturday September 8th. They’ll enter along Wilford Road before racing through High Street, turning left in to Kirk Lane and then right on to Loughborough Road to exit Ruddington towards Bradmore (rolling road closures will be in operation).

Rushcliffe Borough Council put out a call for residents and traders along the route to get involved in the celebration by decorating their houses, businesses or neighbourhood in a cycle theme to welcome the riders.

During the Nottinghamshire leg last year, villagers elsewhere painted scrap bicycles bright yellow to decorate the route. Inspired by this, Ruddington Parish Councillor Sue Matthews found a pedal cycle left out for scrap on a village street last week.
It’s now set to have a new lease of life by being transformed into a brightly designed bike to be displayed in a prominent location when the race speeds through here.

Councillor Matthews said: “I walked past the bike and it had a sign on stating it was for scrap and anyone could take it. I thought how lucky, we can put it to good use when the Tour visits.

“We’re appealing now for anyone in and around Ruddington to donate their old bikes too; they should email office@ruddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk if they can do so.”

Sue was joined by fellow Parish Councillors Annette Auckland, Jill Reedman and Paul Reedman to begin thinking through how it might be decorated. Anyone who already has a yellow painted bike from previous events is also being asked to come forward if they’re willing to donate it to be displayed again.

Paul adds: “The Parish Council is keen to maximize the opportunity for the residents of Ruddington to enjoy a major, international sporting event which will be on our doorsteps, literally, as well as wanting to showcase our lovely village which will be seen, live, on TV sets throughout the country as well as around Europe and further afield.

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“Whilst the Parish Council has some ideas about what the village can do, what we want most are your ideas. Ideas as to how we can celebrate the race and the riders, ideas as to how we can make our village look bright, colourful and vibrant.”

Various businesses in Ruddington have already expressed an interest in becoming involved and a “Best Decorated Business” competition is one idea mooted.

“We’re also keen on a ‘Best Decorated Home’ competition, particularly those along the route of the race” says Paul.

“We’re hoping to have barriers up along the High Street for safety reasons and it would be lovely to decorate these with balloons and bunting, preferably in bright yellow. YELLOW is the theme!

“If we’re fortunate enough to obtain a few scrap bikes, we’d like to spray paint them yellow too and have them dotted along the route throughout the village. If you have a spray paint shop or similar facilities and would like to help, that would be great”.

If you have any other ideas, you’re asked to email Ruddington Parish Council Office on office@ruddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call them on 0115 914 4660.

Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info
‘What buys a king’s shilling?’

A talk by Terence Woolley on Thursday 23rd August at 7.30pm

‘What buys a king’s shilling?’ is the enigmatic title of a new fast-moving novel by Terence Woolley, set in Nottingham during the time of Napoleon.

Our likeable hero, Sergeant Joshua Kerry, returns from India to the town of his birth just as the Luddite riots are breaking out.

His family are framework knitters and he finds himself torn between loyalty to them and his duty to uphold the law. The reader is given a vivid picture of Nottingham and its surrounding villages at a time of great social turmoil.

Terence Woolley, himself Nottingham born and bred, left a career in computer systems to give free rein to his passion for writing. He is coming to the Framework Knitters Museum to talk about how and why the book came about – his research and sources, as well as the background causes and outcomes of the Luddite activities.

The event takes place on Thursday 23rd August at 7.30pm in the former Methodist Chapel on Chapel Street, opposite the main Museum site.

Tickets cost £5 and are available from the Museum or by phoning 0115 984 5375.

Terence’s book is on sale in the Museum shop and a signed copy will be raffled on the night.

Kathy Powis
Ruddington resident off to the Transplant Games

Mark Brown of Grange Avenue, Ruddington, is competing in the British Transplant Games in Birmingham from 2nd to 5th August. The games, which have been run annually since 1978, will see over 700 athletes participating in over 25 events cheered on by over 1250 supporters.

Mark (51), a kitchen designer at Howdens Joinery in Newark, suffered from the hereditary condition Alport Syndrome, which led to kidney failure at the age of 25. After 20 months on dialysis, lasting for four hours a day, three days a week, Mark had a successful kidney transplant in 1994.

Mark says: “It was scary when I got the call to say a transplant was available. My condition was stable and, though now a routine operation for the specialists involved, it was still not without risk.

“Thankfully it’s now 24 years since my transplant, and it’s still going strong. I’ve represented Nottingham City Hospital by participating in the British Transplant Games for the past few years in Sheffield, Bolton, Newcastle & Gateshead, and Liverpool, winning medals in the 100m, bowls, darts, archery and basketball. This year, the City Hospital team will have 26 people competing (25 kidney transplants and one liver), together with 28 supporters and three live donors.

I missed the games in Lanarkshire last summer due to international commitments, but I’ve been fortunate to represent my country at a number of Winter World Transplant Games, winning medals in skiing, snowboarding and curling. I successfully completed a hat trick of gold medals in curling in Switzerland at the Winter World Games in January this year.

The games in Birmingham will give me an opportunity to catch up with friends and my brother James, who also had a kidney transplant 13 years ago. Although we're in different age categories, we try to better each other – James (pictured with Mark above) being the more athletic of the two of us!

The competition this year will be intense as participants will be hoping to qualify for the Summer World
Transplant Games to be held in Newcastle & Gateshead in 2019."

Whilst the games are fun to compete in, and the medals nice to receive, the real aim is to showcase the benefits of transplantation. Every 10 minutes, somebody’s name gets added to the donor waiting list and three people die daily because they can’t get the organ they need.

More than 6,000 people in the UK are currently waiting for a transplant, But with only 34% of the UK population actually registered as organ donors, the NHS Organ Donor Register team says more work needs to be done to raise awareness of donation and to urge those on the donor register to share their wishes with their loved ones. To add your name to the NHS Organ Donor register, call 0300 1232323, text SAVE to 62323 or visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk. Please contact Mark on 07763 929 371 for further details.

Mark Brown

Ruddington Open Gardens

The weather was perfect and over 400 people bought Open Gardens programmes for the event on 23rd and 24th June. They visited the 14 gardens and allotments that opened to the public, listened to live music in the Methodist Church, enjoyed refreshments at one of the gardens or the Church Hall, admired the clever knitted garden exhibits at the Framework Knitters Museum and indulged in some nostalgia with a ride on a vintage bus. It was a great weekend!

I’m delighted to say the event raised well over £2,000 for our two charities, Save the Children and Action for Children. Sincere thanks must go to all who were involved in any way and especially to the garden owners as without them there would have been no event!

Thomas James Estate Agents and Ruddington Co-op also gave us tremendous support in terms of publicity and programme sales, for which we’re extremely grateful.

I hope that everyone who took part enjoyed the event. Maybe we can do it all again in 2020?

Jane Piggott

Parking update

The June 2018 traffic patrol stats for the village were:

- 87 visits
- 778 observations
- 48 penalty charge notices

These figures are considerably higher than the May ones when the enforcement officers were short on vehicles due to two breaking down.
Summer fun in Ruddington

The summer holidays are just around the corner, but don’t worry if you’re not sure how to entertain the kids! There’ll be lots to do in and around the village. Activities include:

Griswold Gang at the Framework Knitters Museum

Themed craft activities will take place on Thursdays 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd August from 11am to 3pm. Please note that children must be supervised by a responsible adult.

There’s a suggested donation of £1 per child and refreshments are available. Contact the museum on 0115 984 6914 for more details or visit www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk.

Rushcliffe Country Park

The Rangers at the park are running kids’ activities on Wednesdays 1st, 8th, 15th and 29th August from 10 am till noon.

This year’s topics are Pond & Woodland Mini Beasts and Den Building. All sessions cost £4.50 per child and should be booked in advance. To find out more, call the Rangers’ Office on 0115 921 5865 or visit www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/rushcliffecountrypark.

GCRN Bear Express

This popular annual event sees two days of mixed heritage steam and diesel running, along with a chance to meet GCRN’s very own Edward the Bear. He’ll be giving all children on the train a sweet treat and a drink.

Kids can also enjoy heritage bus rides, model and miniature railways, the café and gift shop, and a play/picnic area. You’ll find information and tickets at www.gcrn.co.uk.

This summer will be the first in seven years that there’ll be no Ruddington Fun activities, as the voluntary group disbanded earlier in the year. They still have their Facebook page, “Ruddington Fun”, and will continue to signpost families to local events.

Barbara Breakwell
5p coins welcomed
The 5p Challenge is now on and will run throughout the school summer holidays. James Peacock and St Peter’s Schools are encouraging their pupils and staff to collect 5p coins and bring them into their respective schools at the start of the Autumn Term. The school that collects the most coins will win the 5p Challenge Trophy, whilst the monies raised will be donated to the Friends groups of the respective schools.
If you’d like to support this fun challenge, several of our local businesses have kindly agreed to host a pot to collect them. These are the Black Cat Café, Evans Pharmacy, Jaspers Café, Perkins Hardware and Ruddington Village Butchers.
Any coins donated by people unconnected with either school will be shared equally between both.
Thank you.
Barbara Breakwell

RGA Village Show
Time is approaching fast for the Village Show, which will take place on Saturday 15th September in St Peter’s Rooms. The show is organised by Ruddington Gardeners’ Association (RGA).
Entry to the show is free with classes for adults and children, and the categories Gardening, Baking and Photography.
Every child entering the show will receive a prize, so please encourage them to take part! There’ll be demonstrations, plant sales, refreshments from the WI and the Bee Keepers and Country Markets will also be present.
The show schedules and information for entrants are on the RGA website at www.ruddington gardeners.co.uk/events/show-2018. You can also pick up copies from St Peter’s Rooms.
Please place your exhibits from 8am and hand in your entry forms by 9:30am latest on the day, as judging will then take place. The show will be open to the public from 11am to 4pm. Please enter or just come along and help make this another outstanding and enjoyable village event.
Mike Davey
Ruddington Diary

Thursday 2nd August
Griswold Gang “Pirate Crafts” – 11am to 3pm in the Chapel at the Framework Knitters Museum. No need to book. Suggested donation £1 per child. All children must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult. Refreshments available.

Sunday 5th August
Ruddington Footpath Preservation Group – Flawforth Churchyard to Plumtree and return. Meet on The Green at 2.15pm.

Wednesday 8th August
W.I Meeting – “Tibet – A Forgotten Country” at St Peter’s Room, commencing 7.15pm.

Thursday 9th August
Griswold Gang Kids’ Crafts – 11am to 3pm in the Chapel at the Framework Knitters Museum. No need to book. Suggested donation £1 per child. All children must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult. Refreshments available.

Sunday 12th August
Stewart Classic Vehicle Register – Summer Gathering at GCRN. Featuring a “not to be missed” display of fantastic heritage road vehicles from bygone times. Showcasing vintage cars, buses and commercial vehicles, and miniature railway, trade stands and vehicle memorabilia, there is something for everyone. Info and tickets at www.gcrn.co.uk.

Tuesday 14th August
Scrabble – Ruddington Library. 2pm – 4pm All abilities welcome.

Thursday 16th August
Griswold Gang Kids’ Crafts – 11am to 3pm in the Chapel at the Framework Knitters Museum. No need to book. Suggested donation £1 per child. All children must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult. Refreshments available.

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 & 12.30pm. No appointment required.

Ruddington Folk & Blues Night – 8pm at The Country Cottage Hotel. It’s summer so come and enjoy a cool drink, live music and a relaxing, fun evening.

Friday 17th August
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 20th August
Ruddington & District U3A – 2pm at the Methodist Church. The guest speaker is Dr Tim Gray who will give a talk about the East Midlands Immediate Care
Scheme – a network of specially-trained doctors who assist the ambulance service at the scene of life-threatening emergencies. Also updates on interest groups, refreshments and socialising.

Thursday 23rd August

Griswold Gang Kids’ Crafts – 11am to 3pm in the Chapel at the Framework Knitters Museum. No need to book. Suggested donation £1 per child. All children must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult. Refreshments available.

“What buys a King’s Shilling?” – 7:30pm in the Chapel at the Framework Knitters Museum. A talk by Terence Woolley about his new fast-moving novel which paints a vivid picture of life in Nottingham and its surrounding villages during the Luddite uprising. Tickets cost £5 and are available from the museum or by calling 0115 984 5375.

Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th August

GCRN Bear Express. 2 days of mixed heritage steam & diesel running along with a chance to meet GCRN’s very own Edward the Bear on all services. He’ll be giving all children on the train a sweet treat and a drink as well. Info and tickets at www.gcrn.co.uk.

Bilsthorpe Heritage

For their summer outing, members of the Local History Society visited Bilsthorpe, a former mining community in north Nottinghamshire. The closure of Bilsthorpe Colliery in 1997 tore the heart from the village, but residents have managed to preserve some of its history by creating a museum about the colliery, and village life more generally.

The museum displays a large and fascinating collection of artefacts, but what really brought the visit to life was the knowledge and first hand experience of our volunteer guides, many of whom are ex-miners. If you’re visiting the area, or organising a group outing, a visit to Bilsthorpe Heritage is highly recommended.

Gavin Walker

A large print copy of the Village Newsletter is available to read in the library.
Village Walks
The History Society is considering producing a new set of Heritage Trails interpreting the history of the village. Two walks have been organised, based on the route of the original village trails, which were published in the 1980s. All are welcome to join us and contribute suggestions for the new trails.

The Churchyard and Vicarage Lane
Wednesday 15th August, finishing at The Frame Breakers.

Easthorpe Street and Manor Park
Wednesday 22nd August, finishing at the Victoria Tavern.

Meet at the Village Museum, St Peter’s Rooms at 7pm. The cost is £1 per person and each walk will last approximately an hour.

Gavin Walker

Ruddington has its say for the Neighbourhood Plan
Last month saw the close of the Neighbourhood Plan survey. This was a six week consultation during which every resident, business owner and worker in the village was asked to share their priorities for Ruddington on topics ranging from housing and transport to amenities and the village centre.

Over 900 people took the time to complete the survey – an amazing result, and one of the largest responses ever to a Ruddington consultation! Two community events at St Peter's Rooms were held in June to complement the survey, giving residents the opportunity to find out more about the plan, with well over 100 people attending. The Neighbourhood Plan team also held a number of focus groups in June and July, with participants including the Scouts, Ruddington Rangers and St Peter's Junior School. Some fantastic ideas for the future of the village were put forward during these sessions.

The team are now busy analysing all the results and drafting a series of high level planning policies, with the aim of consulting the village on these in the autumn. You can keep up to date with the team's progress at www.ruddingtonnp.org.uk, or follow 'ruddingtonnp' on Facebook and Twitter.

Councillor Mark Pinks

How satisfied are you with Rushcliffe?
Rushcliffe Borough Council has launched their 2018 Resident Satisfaction Survey to gather people’s thoughts about life in the borough and the services provided by Council.
It doesn't matter if you've only just moved into the area, or if you don't pay Council Tax – you can still complete the survey. The Council want to hear everybody's views so they can put their resources where they really matter.

You can complete the survey online at https://www.survey monkey.co.uk/r/RBCresidents2018. All your answers will be treated in the strictest confidence and will only be used to monitor the Council’s services. The closing date for completed surveys is Friday 7th September.

**Ruddington Garage still thriving**

Further to the recent closure of the hair salon and car dealership located at the Ruddington Garage premises on Easthorpe Street, rumours have been flying around the village that the garage itself has closed down. We’re pleased to report that this isn’t the case; the third party businesses who rented the salon and forecourt areas have simply moved or ceased trading.

“We’re still here and open for business!” says Jason Dickman, whose father Brian has owned the premises for 35 years. “There’s no truth in the rumours going round the village that we’ve gone bankrupt or shut up shop. I’ve even heard on the grapevine that people are saying my Dad’s passed away when he’s alive and well!”

In fact, business is booming for Ruddington Garage – so much so that Jason is currently recruiting another mechanic. The forecourt and salon areas are also up for rent, so if you’re looking for some business space in the village, why not give Jason a call on 0115 921 3185?

**Crime figures for Ruddington**

For June these were as follow:
- 2 x burglary, one being a distraction burglary
- 1 x drive-off from the petrol station
- 1 x theft of fuel
- 2 x theft of bicycles, one from a shed
- 2 x theft from local shops (one offender arrested)
- 1 x theft from a locked classroom
- 1 x theft of planters
- 1 x criminal damage to a window
- 1 attempted theft from vehicle
Village Centre Partnership progress

Back in April we reported how local traders in Ruddington began exploring innovative new ways they might work together to attract more residents and visitors to use our village centre.

The Ruddington Village Centre Partnership (RVCP) was formed after the sudden and unexpected closure of Thomas’s the greengrocers prompted an extraordinary meeting of Ruddington Parish Council – resulting in numerous business people and concerned residents coming together to volunteer their help in whatever ways they could.

Councillor Ian Wilson, who is coordinating the partnership, told us: “Over the past couple of months the group has explored a number of possible options around finding a replacement greengrocers for the village.

“Whilst there have been some good conversations nothing has yet emerged – we are still looking. We currently have five working groups, each of which is encouraged to develop plans and then share them back to our steering group.”

The idea of a loyalty card for shopping in Ruddington is progressing. RUDDINGTON.info is pleased to announce that we are now working with The Local Card Group to provide future website and social media promotion for all the businesses enrolled in the RVCP scheme including their regularly changing special offers.

We’ll also be developing a new and expanded version of Ruddington’s printed #RuddyGoodDayOut Guide alongside NCT Buses to incorporate these traders, too.

Ian says: “We hope to launch the card this autumn – and the Promotion Group is focused on a ‘shop local’ campaign which will be launched alongside the Local Card.”

There’s also a Market Group exploring the feasibility of setting up a regular market in Ruddington, and a dedicated Parking Group. The latter is newly formed and is looking at the thorny issue of village centre parking as a whole and working on a
proposal RVCP can share with the community and the Councils which meets the needs of businesses, residents and visitors.

A Community Shop Group is looking at the possibility of a resident run retail outlet – selling products not available (or no longer available) from existing businesses.

Ian adds: “We are all volunteers and are keen to welcome anyone with a particular interest in joining any of these working groups. The focus is on making a difference not meetings – though there WILL be plenty of those!”

If you have an idea for a working group to address a topic in Ruddington Village Centre which you feel has not yet been covered, you’re encouraged to get in touch with RVCP via cooperate29@gmail.com.

Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info & Councillor Ian Wilson

Join the Big Purple Party
Nottinghamshire Hospice is hosting their annual Purple Party during National Hospice Week which runs from the 8th to 14th October this year. This event was a roaring success last year, raising a whopping £12,000 thanks to the support of local communities.

The Hospice is now inviting local businesses and community groups to get involved in the 2018 event by wearing outrageous purple clothes, concocting purple-themed products and decorating their premises with purple bunting and balloons.

Nottinghamshire Hospice is a community-based palliative care centre which provides high quality care services to adults who have terminal and life-limiting illnesses, and their families and carers.

Their Day Therapy unit cares for up to 35 people a day and over 40,000 hours of nursing care is delivered through the Hospice at Home service each year.

All services are provided completely free of charge. However, to continue to provide these vital services the Hospice must raise £2.7 million each year.

So why not get involved in the Big Purple Party and have some fun at the same time?

You can find out more at www.nottshospice.org.
Meet the...local café bar and restaurant

This is the third in a series of “Meet the...” articles about our local shops and businesses, researched and written by Councillor Sarah Godfrey.

If you love your food and drink, Ruddington has without doubt become a foodie destination. Hungry and thirsty locals and visitors have a vast array of eateries and pubs to choose from. Apotheka, located at 6 Wilford Road, is firmly on that map with their legendary ‘bottomless’ offers, high quality local produce and their new flowery suntrap roof terrace, the ‘Apothecary Garden’.

Whilst the owner, Jack Robson, studied Politics at the University of Leeds, he actually spent more time ‘studying’ the vibrant bars and restaurants that the city had to offer. Graduating with what’s known as ‘a drinker’s degree’ (a 2:2), Jack knew he could turn his passion for great food and drink into a great business.

So Jack swapped Politics for Prosecco and now, aged just 24, owns two businesses serving up tasty food and drink. (The other is McArtney’s Catering, also based at 6 Wilford Road).

I met up with Jack to ask him a few questions:

Q: What were your influences behind Apotheka?
A: We wanted to give a nod to the ‘museum village’. Ruddington is loaded with history and our interior reflects that. The pharmacy, opened on the High Street by the Pheathean family in the early 1900s, was obviously an influence. The Pheatheans still live in Rudd; we love how the village holds on to its people. We also love antiques and all things vintage, and spend all our free time in auction rooms.

Q. Are the medicine bottles you have on display from the local pharmacy?
A: Yes! A resident kindly donated some of the medicine bottles we have on show. If you have roots in Rudd, the bottles may well have served up your relatives with medicinal remedies. We’ll stick to serving good ales and cocktails, though!

Q: What are your most popular offers?
A: Our afternoon tea is a hit at £14 for two. But for just £24, two people can enjoy a bottomless Prosecco with their food! A bit mad when a bottle of Prosecco is normally £19. But it’s totally worth all the laughter and fun we see, especially when we have a couple of old friends catching up over fizz and cake.

Q: We hear you’re also serving up bottomless chicken wings (£19 for two with a drink). What’s the record quantity so far?
A: 22. We’re expecting the record to be broken this week, though, so watch this space.

Q: What’s important to you now you’re the owner and not the customer?
A: I think it’s important to be kind and supportive to your staff. Happy staff = happy customers! We’re really lucky to have a great team here and we’ve been blessed with our Head Chef, Andrew Elston. He really knows his produce and he knows how to cook it. I’m a big fan of quality and consistency, so that’s important – and he knows how to deliver that.

Q: What did you take away from your ‘research’ in Leeds?
A: So much! As a student, the Sunday roast was King. At Apotheka, we make sure our roasts do the business and tick all the good ‘roastie’ boxes. We don’t want anyone to leave hungry so, we’re all about the home-made ‘everything’... and more is more! We also like to go the extra mile with our vegetarian options. Our all day breakfast is a winner, too. And everyone wants a nice place to hang out in. When I get the chance I love to sit on our sunny terrace with a cuppa and a newspaper. Bliss!

Apotheka is open from 9am to late. They also provide free venue hire, with a private room available. Please contact the venue to book, or for information about McArtney’s Catering.

Councillor Sarah Godfrey

Ruddington & District U3A

Over 100 people have already signed up to the new U3A group, launched on 21st May, and members have joined groups for walking, photography, history, visits, gardening and reading to name just a few.

The next meeting is on 20th August at 2pm at the Methodist Church, Charles Street. The guest speaker will be Dr Tim Gray, who’ll give a talk about the East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme.

Please feel free to pop in to see what U3A is all about.

Barbara Breakwell
Fancy a free tree?

Rushcliffe Borough Council established a free tree scheme earlier in 2018 to promote more tree-planting in the area. Residents throughout Rushcliffe can apply for up to two free trees using a Surveymonkey form which you can find here: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DHFQSLK.

The trees will be issued from stalls in Bingham, West Bridgford or East Leake in November, with exact dates to be confirmed. At the time of collection, the trees will be two years old and around 60 to 90cm (2 to 3 feet) high. Please note that all planting locations for the trees must be in the Borough of Rushcliffe.

All the species selected for the scheme must be locally-found. This year’s varieties are Wild Cherry (Prunus avium, pictured) which grows to 30m tall and needs full sun, and Field Maple (Acer campestre), which can reach 20m and requires partial shade.

As well as the residents’ scheme, the Borough Council is also offering up to 10 trees to Parish Councils. Groups, organisations, schools, farmers and landowners can take advantage of a different programme run by the Woodland Trust. You can find out more at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/.

Gordon Dyne

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