

Ruddington Parish Council

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

RUDD Campaign Makes the BBC

The Parish Council's campaign to 'Remove Unacceptable Dog Dirt' (RUDD) made the BBC News Nottingham - and may be going national!

Parish Councillor Barbara Breakwell was pictured (with fake dog mess) and explained that residents were using chalk to draw sad faces on the pavement where irresponsible dog owners had failed to pick-up after their dog(s) in the hope of making the culprits stop and think.

Well done Barbara.



New Hotel in Ruddington

Only this one is for mini-beasts!

Both of the schools in our village are blessed with extensive outdoor spaces and both have always actively encouraged their pupils to explore and enjoy the natural world. Over the years trees have been planted, growing beds established and wildlife areas created.



The latest addition to the James Peacock outdoor enrichment project is a bug hotel eagerly constructed by the pupils. They have turned an old wooden pallet, flower pots, tubes, sticks, moss, stones and netting into a safe haven for mini-beasts. It has been positioned in the school wildlife area and eagerly awaits its first guests!

The Village Newsletter is sponsored this month by:



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Parish Council Statement - Youth Club and Community Centre Closure

Ruddington Parish Council has been looking at all of its assets with a view to ensuring that it spends the Council Tax it receives in the most efficient way whilst catering for as many facets of village life as possible. The survey of residents identified that there are activities that local people would like which are not able to be provided at our current facilities.

Many of our buildings have been loved and cherished over a long period of time but both St. Peter's Rooms and Village Hall are showing signs of age. The Village Hall in particular lacks some of the modern facilities expected by existing and potential hirers.

As a result of the County Council decision to close the Youth Club and Community Centre in Ruddington from September 2014 an opportunity may arise which enables the Parish Council, potentially together with other partners from the community, to have use of this site when it becomes vacant. This may enable the existing users to remain and the site could become, over time, the main Community Centre in the village providing an increased range of facilities for Ruddington.

It is important that our village has facilities that are fit for purpose and of which we are proud. This will require vision by the community as a whole. It may be a once in a lifetime opportunity and we believe it would be foolish not to provide facilities fit for the foreseeable future.

It is emphasised that, as things stand at present, no Parish Council facilities

would be withdrawn until a replacement was available. We will keep you informed as any news is available.

Councillor Allen Wood

'Steam Powered Freemasons'

Nottinghamshire Freemasons have joined with the Great Central Railway at Ruddington to run a Family Fun Day in aid of local charities. The event is to be officially opened by the well-known BBC television presenter Dominic Heale, together with representatives of Nottinghamshire Freemasons and the railway.

The event, to be held on Sunday 4th May, is principally aimed at raising funds for the Great Central Railway and a number of other charities including Headway, the well-regarded Nottingham based charity, which helps people to improve their lives after brain injuries.



It will be a full and fun day for everyone with a ride on a steam train included in the entrance price. Local community groups are welcome to participate to help them raise funds for their own activities. For further information contact Peter Hogarth – peterh52@me.com - 07583 729220 – 0115 9747700.

Booking Details: www.gcrn.co.uk

Ruddington gets crafty with pop up boutique

If you're into arts and crafts, or enjoy buying gifts for family and friends, you'll want to hear about Ruddington Pop Up Boutique. It's a group of local businesses who sell their wares through word of mouth and through gift fairs and product parties. And, as the name suggests, stalls and events can be seen 'popping up' in and around Ruddington at regular intervals. The high quality products on offer include craft and gift items, jewellery, luxury toiletries, cakes, chocolates, seasonal items and much more.



The next Ruddington Pop Up Boutique will be held on Saturday 12 April, when stall-holders will be displaying their wares at the Hermitage on Wilford Road from 12 noon to 2pm. As the organisation's main spring shopping event, you can expect to find all kinds of Easter-themed treats, gifts for birthdays and anniversaries, and personalised products you won't find anywhere else. After that, several more events are planned for the rest of 2014 so there will be lots of opportunities to keep buying locally.

For more information and for details of all their events, please visit the Ruddington Pop Up Boutique Facebook page. If you're interested in manning a stall at one of their future events, you can email ruddpopupboutique@gmail.com.

Ruddington Bowls Club turns 90

It's celebration time at Ruddington Bowls Club as members prepare to mark the organisation's 90th anniversary in May. Established in 1924, the Club moved to its present home at Elms Park in 1932, where matches are played on the green behind the cricket pavilion.

But whilst the Club will be celebrating with a special 90th birthday celebration and open day on 11 May, what they'd really like to see is an influx of new, younger, members.

Numbers have declined in recent years, with just 50 people expected to re-join this season. And in January 2014, the Club launched an appeal to attract younger players through the Nottingham Post – stressing the historic importance of the Club as part of the Ruddington sports scene, and emphasising the fun and social opportunities that membership offers.



Speaking to the Post, Club Secretary Fran Dent said: *'Bowls has a very fuddy-duddy image but it really isn't like that. It would be great to get some younger people to take part. Absolutely anyone of*

any age can play. People should come and have a try – I'm sure they will like it...It's a therapeutic game and has a fantastic social side.'

Ruddington Bowls Clubs has both men's and ladies' teams which compete in several local leagues, playing to both EBA and Federation rules. There are also a number of friendly matches, both singles and pairs, throughout the season which offer a great opportunity for new members to gain experience in a relaxed environment.

Like to give it a try?

Come along to the Open Day at Elms Park on Sunday 11 May between 2:30pm and 5pm. All equipment will be provided and it's completely free – so there's no reason not to give it a go!

If you'd like more information in the meantime, please contact Mrs Fran Dent on 0115 914 6707 and leave a message, or visit www.ruddingtonbowls.webspace.virginmedia.com. The bowls season runs from 1 May to 30 September.

By Faye Stenson

The return of the Knitted Bunny Hunt at the museum

The annual Bunnies & Bonnets event returns to The Framework Knitters Museum in Ruddington this Easter. The popular Knitted Bunny Hunt will take place on Good Friday, 18th April, at the museum on Chapel Street from 11.00am – 4.00pm. Any children with bunnies or wearing bonnets will be given free admission.

Once again the naughty knitted bunnies have hidden themselves in various rooms. The museum needs eagle-eyed youngsters to help find their knitted pets.

Any child who can help the framework Knitters find all their knitted bunnies will be rewarded with an Easter Egg. Visitors will also have the opportunity to win a special Easter cake in the guess-the-weight contest. The day will be filled with demonstrations and fun activities for children.



Admission fees are £4 (adults) £2 (children without a bunny or a bonnet). Visit the museum website for additional information or contact Paul Baker, Museum Manager – tel - 0115 984 6914, email- rfwk-mus@btconnect.com, web - <http://www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk/>

Want To Know More?

Do you want to know more about the progress of the Ruddington Village Plan? Visit any of the following: the Village Plan page of the Parish Council website, Ruddington Village Plan on Facebook or @RuddingtonVP on Twitter. Or leave your details at the Parish Council Office and we'll get back to you. *Linda Cooke*

Saturday November 29th, 2014 **Honeycombe Spring Relaunch**

This is the date agreed by the Parish Council for a Christmas Event in our village. After the very positive reaction to the event organised by the St Mary's Community Park Project last year the aim is to bring together businesses, community groups and entertainment to give the village a seasonal community event. If you have any ideas or would like to be involved in any way please contact me on councillorbb@ntlworld.com or phone the Parish Council office on 914 6660.

By Barbara Breakwell

Outstanding

Congratulations are extended to Rushcliffe School for their recent "outstanding" grading from Ofsted. Hot on the tail of their recent award for being the Sporting School of the year local parents/ carers can be assured that their 11-18 year olds are fortunate to attend such a successful school.

By Barbara Breakwell

Ruddington Fun

The first session of 2014 happens on Tuesday April 8th at Elms Park Pavilion from 2-4pm. It is free and has an Easter/ Spring theme . All children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. There will be an extensive programme of activities provided in the summer holidays by various organisations within the village. The diary of events will be produced and distributed at the beginning of July. If you are organising any events for children during the school holidays and would like to be included in the diary please send the details to ruddingtonfun@virginmedia.com

By Barbara Breakwell

The Honeycombe Christian Charity Shop is having a 'Spring Relaunch' on Wednesday 2nd April from 6 – 9 p.m. There are complimentary drinks and nibbles, and a 10% discount on the evening.



Mrs Kanan Soham Patel welcomes customers at the new look Ruddington Post Office.

St. Peter's Girls in National Final

On Saturday March 8th the Under 12 girl's 7 a side football team from St. Peter's School won a place in the National Finals to be held at Aston Villa on May 24th. Managed by teacher Glyn Turner the team has won through from heats at Rushcliffe and Nottinghamshire. Their victory in March was against 11 teams from 11 counties in the Midland Region. The competition is under the banner of English School's Football. The team comprised: Vicky Pepper, Alish Humphries, Esmie Winwood, Charlotte Troup, Ellie Robinson, Summa Betts, Liyah Jukes and Abbie Mae Clayton.

By Peter McGowan

Food & Drink

Ruddington has always been a popular place for people to come for a drink or enjoy a meal out. But our impressive number of culinary options seems to be increasing all the time!

All seven of Ruddington's public houses are now enjoying makeovers. The White Horse has just reopened for business with a more "modern" look and all day food. Owners Andy and Abbie Hunt say there's been "great customer reaction" to their "brighter pub with new décor and windows, new kitchen, resurfaced car park and brand new toilets." Weekend breakfasts are now available in addition to Sunday lunch, whilst there are kangaroo and crocodile options on Wednesdays (yes - really!) and a Steak & Burger night on Thursdays. The pub now boasts SIX ever changing real ales, live music on Saturdays, and the popular quiz night remains every Thursday.



Meantime, construction continues at The Bricklayers Arms to expand the Public Bar into a good-sized "live" music and dance venue, whilst the wall has been reinstated between the Bar and Lounge to bring back a quieter and cosier feel. A new beer garden and smoking shelter is being built, too!

Down the road, work is cracking on apace at the former Jolly Farmers – set to reopen this Easter as The Ruddington Arms after a major refurbishment, inside and out. It's been taken over by Mark and Sarah Anderson who are promising a real, traditional English pub with a focus on "Ruddy Good Food"! *"I feel passionate about what Ruddington has to offer"* says Mark. *"It's a great business centre and we'll provide local employment for 20 people."* Meantime he's seeking historic photos of the inn. If you can help out then please email: Mark@TheRuddingtonArms.com



As if all this wasn't impressive enough, last month McARTNEY'S Café Bar & Bistro on Dutton's Hill launched new menus, with a much greater range of options, alongside greatly extended opening hours seven days a week.

So for great food and drink you really need look no further than Ruddington village!

By Graham Wright

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

The Parish Council Office Part 4 of our Easy Guide to the Parish Council

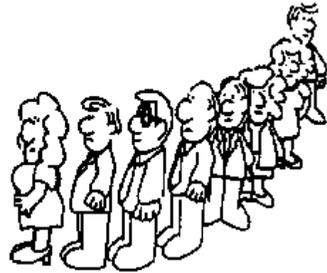
Tucked away in a corner of St. Peter's Rooms, the Parish Council Office is always busy and having worked there for nearly 5 years before retiring, I could write a book on what happens in there! If you come in to St Peter's Rooms during normal office hours, you cannot fail to see the procession of people visiting the office which is home to the Clerk to the Council, the Deputy Clerk and the Administration Assistant – all employees of the Parish Council.

So – exactly what do they do in there?

One of the primary roles of this office is to undertake the work of the Parish Council and its committees. There's a mountain of preparation, agendas, communications, notes, investigations, reports and subsequent minutes to each meeting. Then the office must action any decisions that were made at meetings and ensure that results / outcomes are prepared for future meetings. The Office is also responsible for the preparation and handling of all budgets, accounts, invoicing, wages, etc. in accordance with the council's instructions. There are four cleaners, two full-time groundsmen and a seasonal groundsman who are also managed from the office – and a regular stream of councillors wanting information and updates.

Of course, that's not all. The office is open to members of the public five mornings a week and during that time, staff are mostly dealing with more personal enquiries. This work is extremely varied and can range from taking bookings and payments for the

hire of premises, to enquiries about trees, footpaths, burial plots, allotments and so much more. Residents can view current planning applications, read consultation reports, contribute articles for the Newsletter and website, get their photocopying done or report issues that they consider important – perhaps important enough to be referred to a council or committee meeting. The Clerk and his staff will endeavour to provide information and assistance.



It is often difficult to decipher what is the responsibility of the Parish Council and what isn't and many of the issues that get people hot under the collar are not necessarily under the control of the council. Traffic (Notts County Council -Highways), dog poo (Rushcliffe), street lighting (Highways), gulleys (Highways), waste collection (Rushcliffe) - the list is a long one. Staff will always try to help and/or guide you to the appropriate authority if you have a complaint or concern about any issue that is not under the Parish Council's jurisdiction.

Remember, the office is open from 9.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Friday – or you can email your enquiry to office@ruddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

By Linda Cooke

Next month - Part 5 – The Parish Council Groundstaff

Do you like to know what is happening?

Most of us do if we are honest.

If you would like to be updated about major incidents, get advice on community safety and crime prevention or alerted about criminal activity in the area you can by registering with the Nottinghamshire Alert System. It is a free system that allows Nottinghamshire Police, Neighbourhood Watch in Nottinghamshire and other organisations that work for the public to send messages to you quickly and efficiently.

If you have internet access you can register at www.nottinghamshirealert.co.uk. If not, ask any of our Neighbourhood Policing Team when you see them around the village for a form to complete.

Ruddington Business Partnership

The Ruddington Business Partnership is a networking event attended by businesses local to the Ruddington area. The group is really taking off with lots of new businesses joining us each month from a variety of different sectors. We have really benefitted from receiving support from the Rushcliffe Business Partnership, with the group now being promoted on their website.

In addition to this, we are now sending out a monthly e-newsletter featuring a business spotlight on a different Ruddington business each month. We will also be sharing local news and information about Ruddington and growth strategy plans being developed by Nottinghamshire County Council as they plan to connect more with local communities. Through this we hope to

really promote Ruddington and its local businesses, as well as building a community-feel amongst local business owners through the networking events.



Please feel free to join us! We meet on the third Friday of every month at Philos from 8am-9am. There is no need to book, just join us for free on the day. If you would like to get in touch beforehand to find out more about the group you can contact Shamshad on 0115 982 3249 or email shamshad@shamshadwalker.co.uk.

Village Newsletter Online

Did you know that each issue of the village newsletter is published online in PDF format? It's available from the first day of publication, usually the first working day of each month. So if you can't get to your usual outlet for any reason, or if they've run out of copies later in the month, you can always read or download our newsletter online. You'll find all the issues stored together at www.ruddingtonparishcouncil.co.uk.

And for the very latest news (and to find out as soon as the latest newsletter is published) why not follow the village social media accounts? These are @ruddington_info on Twitter and Ruddington Village, Nottinghamshire on Facebook. Happy browsing!

By Faye Stenson

Football Bonanza at Rudd FC

Our local football team, Ruddington Village FC, is proud to be taking part in the second Precision Notts Senior League Football Bonanza 2013/2014 on Saturday 12 April. The event will see Ruddington Village FC take on Boots Athletic FC at 12:50pm, followed by a second match kicking off at 3:30pm that will feature the Ruddington Village Reserves and a second local side, to be confirmed.



Both matches will be played at home at Elms Park, with admission just £3 for both games. Hot and cold refreshments will be available along with special match programmes and other memorabilia. It's set to be an enjoyable afternoon and the club is hoping for a good turn-out, so if you're a soccer fan make sure you show your support! For more information about the Football Bonanza and the other matches involved, please visit www.pitchero.com/clubs/ruddingtonvillagefc.

Ruddington Village FC is also currently seeking local businesses who'd like to sponsor the team, so if your company is interested, please contact them through their website. There are sponsorship packages available to suit all budgets.

By Faye Stenson

Ruddington Army Cadets to Belgium in June

'A' Company (The Rifles) based at Ruddington have paid many visits to the WW1 battlefields of France and Belgium. This centenary year's visit will however be something special. The visit from June 29th to July 4th will include the town of Fonquevilliers where many of the soldiers from the Robin Hood Rifles, who died on the first day of the Battle of the Somme in 1916, are buried.

Continuing their musical tradition the Unit's corps of drums will play at the Menin Gate when wreaths are laid. There is an opportunity to join the visit even if you are not directly linked to the cadets (Ring 0115 929 1505 for details).

By Peter McGowan

Spring Gardening

Spring has sprung and as it has been quite mild for this time of year we're sure you have made the most of getting out into the garden - start with pruning back the woody shrubs which had outgrown their space, such as the hydrangea and lavender bushes.

Over winter the moss will have begun to creep into the shady places of the lawn - treat with lawn sand to kill it off. The moss will turn black within a week and it will just need raking out once it has completely died. Make a start in

the greenhouse - sewing tomato, lettuce, sweet pepper and chilli seeds which will come up quickly now but remember to put the greenhouse heater on for those frosty nights! Now is the time for planting seed potatoes, onions and shallots and, weather permitting, sow some annual flower seeds in the next week or two.

Written by Helen at Perkins Hardware.

Tony Allen

Our father, Tony, died on 13th February 2014. Many of you will know Tony from Allen Vending in the centre of the village.

The offices at 27 High Street were the birthplace of his wife, Mary, where her family, the Bradwells, lived and worked from the 1890s. The family traded firstly as grocers from the shop on the corner (now Westbrookes) and then as millers and agricultural merchants. They built the warehouse behind the house which is still in use today.



William Herbert Bradwell, Mary's father, was the last of the Bradwells to carry on the business. Tony started Allen Vending from his home in West Bridgford in March 1971 but moved to the present premises in the mid-seventies when Mary's mother, Lucy

(nee Butler - another Ruddington family) moved into a care home.

His son Robert (or Bob as he is also known) joined the business when he returned from Australia in 1972 and his daughter, Barbara, worked firstly from home and then full time in the offices from 1990.

Tony continued to come into the office until his enforced retirement only four years ago following a slight stroke. Until then, he was regularly seen about the village chatting to everyone. When Mary became ill in 2010, Tony moved to Westwolds Care Home in Burton Joyce and only became ill himself earlier this year.

Tony (nicknamed Tanner in his school days) was also a professional footballer playing for both Nottingham Forest and Notts County and he continued to support 'The Magpies' in his later years.

Robert and Barbara

Joan Matthews

Joan Matthews sadly died on 24th January this year. Joan was the wife of Rodney who was Baptist minister in Ruddington in the early 1960s. Rodney passes his regards to those who remember him. He has fond memories of their time here in Ruddington.

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

The copy deadline for the May edition is 15th April.

Ruddington Diary - Continued

Wednesday 16th April

Ruddington District Probus Club - Shale Gas Recovery - Fracking. At Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 17th April

Action On Hearing Loss - FREE walk-in hearing aid clinic, St. Peter's Rooms 11.30am to 12.30pm. No appointment required.

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

Neighbourhood Watch Meeting - St. Peter's Rooms 6.30pm to 7.15pm

Friday 18th April

Framework Knitters Museum - Easter Bunny Hunt. Between 11am to 4pm, Chapel Street, entrance fee - family ticket £10, adult £4, children £2. Telephone 0115 984 6914 or visit

www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk

Sunday 20th April

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

Sunday 27th April

GCRN Road Transport Event - Trucks, cars and buses from yesteryear plus trade stands and heritage rides. See www.gcrn.co.uk for details.

Tuesday 29th April

Finance & Policy Committee - at St. Peters Rooms 7.30 pm. All meetings are open to the public where you can raise your views on any items on the agenda.

Wednesday 30th April

Ruddington Gardeners' Association - "The Artist in the Garden" by Steffie Shields, with complimentary refreshments. The Hermitage 7pm for 7.30pm.

MAY 2014

Sunday 4th May

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. Bunny Bluebell Woods to Wysell. Meet on the Green at 2.15pm.

Tuesday 6th May

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

Wednesday 7th May

Ruddington District Probus Club - Life as a scrap dealer. At Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 8th May

Ruddington & District Ladies' Probus Club - Tim Preston, The Isles of Scilly, 2pm at the Methodist Church

Get fit and have fun in the park

Have you noticed the new adult exercise equipment in Rushcliffe Country Park?

It offers an alternative way for adults of all ages and abilities to keep fit by exercising different parts of the body on nine pieces of brand new apparatus.

Purchased and installed by the Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park, the equipment has been funded by a Notts County Council 'Local Improvement Scheme' grant.

Located near the children's adventure playground, the area can be used by up to 13 people at a time, with different

apparatus designed to exercise your arms, legs and torso in a variety of ways. Your workout can be as gentle or as strenuous as you want to make it, with activities ranging from a simple exercise bike to the more demanding chin-up bars and sit-up board.

So if you're not sure about the skateboard park and don't fancy a jog, get down the Country Park and have a go on the adult exercise equipment today! Just make sure you read the instructions for each machine before you start and continue for the recommended time so you get the maximum benefit.

Ruddington Diary

APRIL 2014

Tuesday 1st April

Annual Parish Meeting - at St. Peter's Rooms 7.30 pm. Open to the public, raise your views on any items on the agenda.

Wednesday 2nd April

Ruddington District Probud Club - Police and Crime Commissioner, Paddy Tipping. At Ruddington Golf Club at 12noon.

Thursday 3rd April

Wiggle & Giggle, Music & Movement - Starting 3rd April, every Thursday 9.30am to 10.15am at the Framework Knitters, Chapel Room classes for children 1 - 5 years

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

Framework Knitters Museum - "R marks the Spot - Filming the Search for Richard III. At 7.30pm Old Chapel, Chapel Street, tickets £6. Contact the Museum or Kathy on 0115 984 5375.

Sunday 6th April

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. West Leake to Kingston on Soar. Meet on the Green at 2.15pm.

Framework Knitters Museum - will be taking part in BBC Radio Nottingham's Big Day Out. Free entry to all visitors with a flyer. More info at

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01svcd8

Tuesday 8th April

Rattle, Rhyme and Roll - in the Ruddington Library 10.30 - 11.15. 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.

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

Rattle, Rhyme and Roll - in the Ruddington Library

Wednesday 9th April

Ruddington W.I. - Annual Meeting, choose the team to run your WI! At 7.15pm at St. Peter's Rooms.

GCRN NDA - Film Night. Picture Postcard Rambles: The Hope Valley Line, Sheffield to Edale. Starts 8pm, admission £3. See www.gcrn.co.uk for details.

Thursday 10th April

Ruddington & District Ladies' Probud Club - Tim Preston, The Isles of Scilly, 2pm at the Methodist Church

Saturday 12th April

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

Ruddington Pop Up Boutique - at the Hermitage 12noon to 2pm. £1 entry, kids free. See April's Newsletter for details.

Precision Notts Senior League Football Bonanza - Elms Park, Ruddington. First match kicks off at 12.50pm. Admission £3. See April's Newsletter for details.

Sunday 13th April

Tea, Coffee & Cakes - at the Education Room (near the lake), Rushcliffe Country Park from 10am to 4pm. In aid of Camps International Ecuador.

Continued inside

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