

RUDDINGTON DIARY

Tuesday 1st May

Finance & Policy Committee Meeting at St. Peter's Rooms, Church Street comm 7.30pm

Wednesday 2nd May

Ruddington & District Probus Club presents "Stanton (Ironworks) Gone but not Forgotten" by Stephen Flinders at Ruddington Grange Golf Club. 0115 921 4139 ext 22.

Scrabble - Dabble at a game of Scrabble at the White Horse Inn, Church St comm 2pm

Sunday 6th May

Tea, Coffee & Cakes from 10.00am to 3.00pm in the Education Room (by the lake) at Rushcliffe Country Park. In aid of FoRCP

Footpaths Walk - Ruddington Footpaths Preservation Group's walk in Bunny Woods & Ash Lane. Meet on the Green 2.30pm.

Monday 7th May

Workers Playtime - Lots to do at the Framework Knitters Museum from 11am to 4pm. Music and dance, and 'have-a-go' at traditional crafts, Morris Dancers, a barrel organ and more.

Tuesday 8th May

New Orienteering Club Night at Rushcliffe Country Park Tuesdays 6.30-8pm. All ages, abilities, etc. Adult £2, Child £1, Families £3 - first week free. Hilary Palmer 0115 982 0651.

Wednesday 9th May

Ruddington WI - "Resolutions - it matters to you!" St. Peter's Rooms, comm 7.15pm. Visitors and new members welcome.

Thursday 10th May

"Stories of hope from the slums of Brazil" - a talk by Sharon Bell at Ruddington & District Ladies' Probus Club at St. Peter's Rooms commencing 2pm. New members welcome.

Friday 11th May

"The Salonika Theatre" - a talk by Kate Wills. Western Front Assoc at St. Peter's Rooms 7.30pm. Visitors welcome - £3.50 to include refreshments.

Saturday 12th May

Parish Council Surgery - Meet with your Parish, Borough and County Councillors. 10am to 12 noon at St. Peter's Rooms

Sunday 13th May

Bike Ride - Arboretum Event. Meet outside the Dental Practice on Wilford Road at 10.30am. Ring Julian on 07824 508535.

Wedding Fayre - at Parklands Stables, Loughborough Road from 11am to 3pm. Stalls for brides and grooms to be.

Tuesday 15th May

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL at St. Peter's Rooms, Church Street commencing 7.30pm

Wednesday 16th May

Ruddington & District Probus Club "Theatre Life In Nottingham" by Bob Wildgust at Ruddington Grange Golf Club. Phone 0115 921 4139 ext 22 for details.

Friday 18th May

Ruddington Business Partnership - Local businesses meet and network. Call in to Philo's between 8am and 9am.

Saturday 19th May

Spring Fair - The Wildlife Trust's annual event at St. Peter's Rooms from 10am to 12 noon. Garden plants, 2nd hand books, homemade cakes, tea & coffee, etc

Tuesday 22nd May

"What will the NHS reforms mean to you" - a Ruddington & Tollerton Labour Party discussion at St Peter's Rooms 7:30pm to 9pm. Tea and biscuits.

Friday 25th May

Songs4U - Ruddington Methodist Church are holding a concert starting at 7.30pm. Tickets £6 incl refreshments- ring 0115 921 2662 or 0115 921 3112. Proceeds to Christian Aid.

Tuesday 29th May

Amenities Committee Meeting at St. Peter's Rooms, Church Street commencing 7.30pm

May 2012

FREE – MONTHLY

Issue No. 28

Ruddington Parish Council VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

RUDDINGTON CHOIR STILL GOING STRONG AFTER 50 YEARS

This year is one of big celebrations, with the Olympics 2012, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and Ruddington and District Choral Society's 50th Anniversary. Starting as a small group of about 20 singers in 1962, the choir practised in Church House near the Framework Knitters' Museum. Sue Rivington was a founder member when only



18. 'Our first concert was Handel's 'Messiah', singing in St Peter's Church, Ruddington. We are a friendly choir and have some long standing members. Also our Musical Director and Pianist are also singers, which helps at rehearsals. Our Anniversary performance on Sunday, December 16th will be Handel's 'Messiah' at St Peter's Church', says Sue. On Saturday May 26th the Choir will perform 'Joshua' by Handel at St Giles Church, West Bridgford, starting at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets from Perkins Hardware, Choir members (0115 9211451) or at the door.

21 YEARS OF COFFEE

In April, the Wednesday Coffee Morning held at St Peter's Rooms, celebrated its 21st year with champagne and cake (and coffee!). Over 30 members attended on a very wet morning to enjoy the celebration and thanks were expressed by members to organiser Lorna McCullough, Judy Grande, an original helper and Pat Slater. We marvelled at the fact that when we started there were no mobile phones, no computers and all that they entail. The first rotas for the helpers were typed on a typewriter with carbon paper but they all knew how to make a good cup of tea and coffee. The idea of the Coffee Morning was,

and is, for friendship and chat. We make a point of staying open all year unless Christmas Day or New Year's Day falls on a Wednesday and anyone over 55 is welcome. (cont'd p2)



Lorna McCullough (centre) with Pat Slater (left) & Judy Grande (right).

Ruddington Parish Council,
St. Peter's Rooms, Church Street, Ruddington, Nottingham NG11 6HA.
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21 years ago most of our helpers were too young to become members but things have changed and we are all now fully fledged and fully qualifying members!

Early on in our time we also had lunch served by Pat Oliver which was very popular, but now we just meet from 10.00am – 11.00am, finishing in time for the Community bus which brings people from all over the village. Very occasionally we have visitors who come in to talk to us and one of these introduced us to mosaic making which was much enjoyed and members work can now be seen incorporated into a display on the perimeters of East Midlands Airport. Once a term children from James Peacock School come down to give us a hand and to meet the members. Young and old mix well together and the children enjoy hearing about the old school that used to be in the building – they are always amazed when they hear that the toilets used to be outside!

21 years ago we charged 20p for the morning, then 30p, and from this month we have had to put it up to 50p but we hope you will all agree that this is a real bargain. Many thanks to all who have helped us in the past and to those still helping us as we start another 21 years of Coffee and Chat.

(By Lorna McCullough)

“ON YER BIKE” – AND ON THE CYCLE PATH PLEASE!

Back in 2010, Nottinghamshire County Council spent a whopping £350,000 on an accessibility scheme for Ruddington, which included installing cycle paths and proper footpaths on Wilford Road and Clifton Road. So you can understand villagers’ frustrations when they see

cyclists using the roads or the new pedestrian-only footpaths in these areas of the village.

Driving on our village roads can be tricky at the best of times, but with the addition of (often wobbly!) cyclists in the middle of the road, it can be downright dangerous.

The cycle paths were installed to help make things safer and keep traffic moving on these two busy roads, so why are they being under-used? The issue of cyclists using the pedestrian footpaths is a matter of courtesy as well as safety. These are much narrower than the cycle paths and mums pushing buggies or older people struggling with shopping trolleys don’t appreciate bikes whizzing past them at 20mph!

So what can we do to make sure our village cycle paths are used properly in the future? They’re certainly well-signposted, but it has been pointed out that the lack of bicycle/pedestrian demarcation lines after you’ve entered the village on Wilford Road could be causing confusion. We’d be interested to hear if the County Council has any suggestions for how we could improve cycle path usage, and therefore safety, on our village roads.

(By Faye Stenson)

ELECTION

On Thursday 17th May 2012, electors in Flawford Ward, Ruddington will be able to elect a new Parish Councillor. If **you** live in Flawford Ward, don’t forget to vote.



in the evening, travelling where there was no current railway line.’

On top of these fascinating incidents, our first source hinted that there’s much more to tell about spectral activity on Ruddington’s old railway lines: *‘There was a lot of talk of odd things happening up at the army depot and also around the Nottingham Transport Centre – but you would have to talk to people who were there in the early days!’*

Were YOU there in the ‘early days’? If so, we’d love to hear about any ghostly tales you have to tell. You can contact newsletter contributor Faye at faye.stenson@blackandwrite.co.uk to send your story by email or arrange an interview.

Thanks to everyone who’s contacted us so far!

(By Faye Stenson)

ARE YOU A KEEN ARTIST?

The Framework Knitters Museum is looking for exhibitors for their annual Painting and Textile Exhibition and Sale which takes place from 2nd to 4th June in the Chapel. Amateurs and professionals are encouraged to participate. All art exhibited must be made available for sale to the public. If you are interested in exhibiting please contact Myra Noonan on 0115 921 1497.

WHAT’S YOUR FAVOURITE?

With the 10th annual Ruddington Beer & Cider Festival looming, festival organisers would like to know which of your favourite tipples you’d like to see at this year’s event. You can let them know by Tweeting ‘@ruddbeer’ the White Horse Inn’s Twitter account or visiting www.ruddingtonfestival.co.uk. This year’s Beer & Cider Festival will be a five day extravaganza, running from Thursday 31 May to Monday 4

June – a day longer than usual in honour of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. The White Horse, Three Crowns and Red Heart are all taking part, with an expected total of 75 beers and ciders on offer.

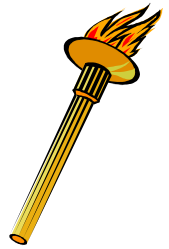
The event will run from 12 noon to 12 midnight over the five days. With an array of attractions including Morris Dancers, live music, Indian food and open air BBQs, it’s a great way to celebrate the extra-long Bank Holiday weekend. Please drink responsibly!

(By Faye Stenson)

OLYMPIC TORCH CARRIER

Carol Jagers has been chosen by her employers, the Lloyds Banking Group, to carry one of the Olympic Torches in recognition of her inspirational work in the community. Carol has been a Guider with the 3rd Ruddington Brownie Pack for 26

years and recently she has been helping at the Rainbows as one of their guiders has just left. Known to the Brownies as Bobtail or Bobby, she is a very popular and hard working member of the 3rd



Ruddington Team and also manages a full time job. Like all of our team members, Carol gives a lot of time to the Brownies helping with pack holidays and outings as well as our very popular Monday meetings. All the team thoroughly enjoy being members of the 3rd Ruddington Brownies.

A LARGE PRINT COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY



started in 2011 and was a huge success. You can enter any time from May to the end of September – just take a picture of your garden at its best or during a particularly

interesting stage and send it in with an entry form. And for those keen gardeners among you, keep up your planning and planting ready for the judging of the **ANNUAL GARDEN COMPETITION** in July. Entry forms and full details for both of the Parish Council competitions will be available either from St. Peter's Rooms or on the Parish Council website. (Pictured – last year's winning entry of the Photographic Competition by Mr P Brown) Finally, to all allotment holders in the village – the **ALLOTMENTS COMPETITION** will be judged in July and you are automatically entered unless you ask not to be. Notices will be supplied for display at the allotments in the weeks leading up to judging so keep your eyes open. Prizes and certificates for all Parish Council competitions will be presented at the Presentation Evening which will take place on Tuesday 23rd October at St. Peter's Rooms. Happy gardening!

POLICING

Our Beat Manager Ann Gill says: "Did you know that you can now get lockable nuts for your number plate which can help prevent the theft of your number plate? Stolen number plates are frequently used in crime, particularly theft of fuel from petrol stations. If you notice your number

plate is missing, please ring 101 and let the police know."

Police contact numbers are:

Dial 101 - for non emergencies

Our Beat Manager is PC Ann Gill – tel: 07702 141 724

Our PCSO is Jenny Buggy – tel: 07702 141 722

IN AN EMERGENCY RING 999

SPOOKY SIGHTINGS!

Our recent request for stories of ghostly sightings in and around the village has brought in no less than three reports of phantom steam trains being seen or heard running along the disused Nottingham line. The line closed to passenger trains in 1966, although trains still ran to the former army depot until the early 1980s.

A lady who used to live near Ruddington Station, which was sited near the Clifton-Ruddington road, told us about an experience she and her husband had after the passenger services had stopped. 'One morning at around 6am, we heard a steam train approaching – both of us heard it. My husband ran to the window to see which engine it was because the line had been closed and only diesels ran to the army depot. And there was nothing there! Just the sound of a steam train going by at speed.'

The lady added: 'In later years I was talking to another lady who lived near the railway line and she said she saw a train go past her garden with all its lights on, no passengers, knowing the line went no further than Ruddington Station. She waited for it to return but it never did – and it wasn't at Ruddington Station.'

Our third source described an evening when she was out with friends in the fields near the disused railway line: 'I have no idea of the exact time, but I can vividly remember hearing a train

CHILDREN'S SPORT RELIEF

The Ruddington Childminding Group was formed over 30 years ago by local Ruddington Childminders. There have been many attend the group over the years and we have used various venues around the village. We currently have 9 members who meet twice a month at a local church where we are allowed to use the toddler group toys for our sessions - which is a fantastic help!



Our room hire has been paid for by Surestart over the past years but we have also held sponsored toddlers' walks to raise funds for the group. We plan activities for the children under the Early Years Foundation which allows them to socialize in a group and form friendships.

The picture shows the children showing off their Sport Relief Certificates after taking part in an obstacle course, playing bat and ball, frisbees, hoola hoops and lots more, encouraging all the children to get active and helping to learn that exercise is fun!

If anyone needs any information regarding childminding services within the village please contact our group secretary Tracey Sadler on 07825287470 who will then be able to pass on individual childminders information.

RUDDINGTON BOWLS CLUB



Why not learn to play bowls?

It keeps you fit - it's fun - and it's a good way to make new friends. Maybe we are biased but we think bowls is a great game. Why not come along and try it for yourself? Come on your own or bring the family and friends to our Open Day on Sunday 6th May from 2pm to 4.30pm. You will find us tucked away behind the cricket pavilion in Elms Park. There's plenty of parking space and you can have a cuppa and a chat as well as have a go at bowling. All ages are welcome and no previous experience is necessary, all we ask is that you wear flat, smooth soled shoes. If you want to know more, ring Fran Dent on 07960 870078.

OUT OF VILLAGE BUSINESSES

Part 3

This month we round off our journey of discovery of lesser-known businesses on the outskirts of Ruddington. These are just as important for our local economy and employment – as well as providing amenities for residents out of the main village centre.

At the north-eastern edge of Ruddington, at the end of Rufford Road, you'll find The Corner Shop. The name says it all really – a handy

newsagents, off licence and convenience store to serve the community. It's now a thriving business despite having been rescued from closure just a decade ago by current owners Stefan and Karen Swann – who now seem to enjoy a constant stream of customers from dawn until dusk seven days a week!

They also do a delivery service for elderly and housebound customers.



During the summer plants are on sale at the front of the

shop – and that's when their other business "Parklands Celebrations" comes into its' own. This is a joint venture with Debbie & Colin Lowther at Parklands Stables – the venue for a luxurious marquee available for weddings and other special occasions. Debbie also runs a franchise of Trophy Pet Foods from her Ruddington base.

Right next door to The Corner Shop you can also get your hair done! Flix Hair Design is a modern salon promising a friendly atmosphere and a personal service, and is run by stylists Deborah & Collette – with over a quarter of century of hairdressing experience between them.

Venturing out along Ashworth Avenue onto Loughborough Road you'll find Ruddington's only surviving filling station – selling competitively priced Esso petrol and diesel as well as being another outlet for newspapers, groceries and a range of motoring accessories. Ruddington Service Station also offers snacks, a car wash, and tyre pressure check & inflation facilities.

For working parents, over the road in the former gatehouse for Ruddington Hall there's Tiny Teddies' Day Nursery - with places for up to 37 children

aged two months to eight years.

Finally, for older children, we venture to the north-western end of the village to discover East Midlands Sports Direct. Formerly Bridge Stores and then Powers Pottery it was relaunched as a sporting and teamwear shop around eight years ago by Steve Wilson – and has gone from strength to strength. The business now also sells clothing and uniforms for many of our local schools as well as offering a bespoke embroidery and printing service.



So, you see, there really is much more to Ruddington than initially meets the eye. And if YOU run an interesting village business that we've not featured previously in this Newsletter then please do get in touch!
(By Graham Wright)

THE NOISE

The Noise will be taking place in Ruddington on 30th June and 1st July this year. This exciting event, organised by Ruddington Baptist Church, is focussed on community action and showing God's love in practical ways. It's a great opportunity to make a positive difference in our village. Why do we do it? We try to look after Ruddington, and share the good we've been given: time, skills,



resources and friendship. Over the weekend, we'll be bringing volunteers of all ages together to tackle some of Ruddington's needs. Last year teams of young people and adults were allocated projects and tasks to complete like: interior painting, garden clearing, hedge cutting, fence or shed painting.

If you know anyone who is unable to carry out these sort of tasks for themselves (such as a pensioner or unwell community member), then please do contact us, we would really like to help by sending a team on either 30 June or 1 July. We only ask that the jobs must be in Ruddington and, if we are visiting your home, you will need to be in on one of the two days of The Noise. Please call Nic and Dina Morton on 0115 921 3376 with your suggestions. If you would like to take part as a volunteer, download a sign-up form from our website www.ruddingtonbaptist.org.uk or visit the website to find out more!

FUN AT THE LABYRINTH



The official opening of the labyrinth at Rushcliffe Country Park. Attended by guides, rangers, schoolchildren, dog walkers and visitors.

.... AND MORE FUN FOR THE KIDS AT THE COUNTRY PARK

The Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park have been busy building two new features to help entertain the kids

during visits to the Park. Already proving popular is a



caterpillar play sculpture, based on the well-known book by Eric Carle, *The Hungry Caterpillar*. Children can enjoy scrambling in and around the sculpture and searching for a selection of foods hidden inside. You'll find the hungry caterpillar in the willow area of the park, near the frog.

There's also fun to be had with a new ring of wooden mushrooms. They're decorated with different carvings which offer a selection of games to amuse the children. You can find out more about the Friends and how you can get involved at www.friends-of-rcp-co.uk.
(By Faye Stenson)

IT'S COMPETITION TIME!

As we begin to see more sunshine (although as I write this, it has been raining for days and is forecast to continue!) and the days grow longer, it's time to remind you about the competitions running this summer in Ruddington.

The **BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION** depends on the co-operation of all residents and businesses to help keep the village tidy and well cared for. The Parish Council ground staff do their best to keep open spaces maintained but it is often the carelessly discarded crisp bags or pop cans that give the wrong impression. Judging for Round 1 will take place between 4th and 21st June. Also being launched this month is the Parish Council's **'PHOTOGRAPHIC' GARDEN COMPETITION** which