

# THE RUDD

## Flowers for Community Response Team volunteers

Volunteers Sue Matthews and Alex Broughton from Ruddington's Covid-19 Mutual Aid Group have been presented with flowers for their fantastic efforts helping those in need.



Ruddington's Borough Councillors, Mike Gaunt, Jen Walker and Gary Dickman – who have themselves been involved in organising our village's pandemic response – nominated them for the accolade as part of National Volunteering Week, which ran from 1st to 7th June.

Sue has been co-ordinating Ruddington's helpers who've come from many walks of life to step forward and assist their neighbours with everything from shopping deliveries, prescription collections and

**STAY  
ALERT** 

**CONTROL  
THE VIRUS**

 **SAVE  
LIVES**

dropping off home schooling packs – all whilst “social distancing”. At the start, this included delivering around 3,000 specially-printed leaflets to householders detailing what help was available.

Meanwhile, Alex is one of around 300 volunteers whose tireless dedication to the support group was thought to merit this extra recognition. Another key volunteer, Mark Pinks, helped secure £5,000 from “The Nottinghamshire £1m Community Fund” to provide hot meals for residents who are identified as being vulnerable and “in need.”

Leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council, Cllr Simon Robinson said: “It has been incredible to see the work of volunteers and groups from all corners of the Borough during these most challenging of times.

As part of National Volunteer Week, we saw it fitting to show our appreciation to those working hard in our towns and villages, to show we are aware of their vital contributions to their community and appreciate their spirit and determination to help others.”

Councillor Walker added: “The group has been an inspiration to me these past few months. I’ve such admiration for all of the volunteers who took part. A massive thanks to you all!”

If you’d like to contact Ruddington Covid-19 Mutual Aid Group to ask for help for yourself, a relative or friend, you can still do so on 07954 073 115, by emailing [ruddcovid19@gmail.com](mailto:ruddcovid19@gmail.com) or via their Facebook group [here](#).

With thanks to Rushcliffe Borough Council and Graham Wright via [RUDDINGTON.info](http://RUDDINGTON.info)

## **Ruddington marketing business takes training online to raise charity cash**

A digital marketing expert who lives in Ruddington has raised money for a charity in crisis after taking her training sessions online.

Shamshad Walker, who runs her own business in West Bridgford, started collecting cash for Headway Nottingham after hearing the charity was struggling.

She moved her training sessions online after the Covid-19 pandemic hit and has been asking delegates to donate money to Headway Nottingham instead of taking the money herself.

The online workshops she offers include advice on developing marketing plans, blog writing and how to use social media more effectively. She has so far raised £500 for Headway Nottingham, collected over April and May.

Shamshad, aged 54, who has run Shamshad Marketing from West Bridgford for nine years, said: "I wanted to help local business owners to learn marketing skills as budgets are very tight at the moment for everyone. I knew Headway Nottingham was struggling, especially during lockdown so it felt like a good opportunity to help them as well.



"I suppose I have taken them under my wing. They were running an appeal earlier this year as they were in danger of closing and the Coronavirus pandemic took attention away from them when they need our support more than ever.

"I have raised money and also raised awareness of this amazing charity. All the businesses that have accessed the training have improved their marketing skills and they are now also aware of Headway Nottingham.

"During this pause it is important for businesses to focus on marketing so they can come out stronger than ever, it will take time but the sooner they start to promote themselves the

quicker the recovery. I have been pleased to offer my training sessions to business owners as well as furloughed workers who are still allowed to train whilst not working."

Headway Nottingham offers long-term help, rehabilitation and advice to people affected by brain injuries and their families across Nottinghamshire.

The charity's manager Charlotte Leask said: "Headway Nottingham has seen the enormous benefit of Shamshad's training courses, networking and experience. She has volunteered her time to our small charity to help us boost our online presence and develop our digital marketing.

"During the Covid-19 pandemic, Shamshad's unwavering support has eased our workload and raised vital funds."

Single mum Shamshad has been working from home with son Aden, who has missed out on taking GCSE exams, and daughter Alisha, 19, who has returned home from Lancaster University to continue her studies online.

Shamshad has also become the charity's social media manager, offering her services for free. She said: "It is important for Headway Nottingham to keep in the public eye and social media is a brilliant way to do this."

## Changes to social distancing from Saturday 4th July

On 23rd June, Prime Minister Boris Johnson set out further changes to lockdown measures in England to enable people to see more of their friends and family, help businesses get back on their feet and get people back in their jobs.

From Saturday 4th July, the Prime Minister has announced that pubs, restaurants and hairdressers will be able to reopen, providing they adhere to COVID Secure guidelines.

From the same date, he has set out that two households will be able to meet up in any setting with social distancing, and that people can now enjoy staycations in England with the reopening of accommodation sites.

In order to begin restoring the arts and cultural sector, some leisure facilities and tourist attractions may also reopen, if they can do so safely – this includes outdoor gyms and playgrounds, cinemas, museums, galleries, theme parks and arcades, as well as libraries, social clubs, places of worship and community centres.

Following a review, the Prime Minister has also set out that where it is not possible to stay two metres apart, guidance will allow people to keep a social distance of “one metre plus”. This means staying one metre apart,

plus mitigations which reduce the risk of transmission. These measures are as follows:

- Wear a mask in busy places and on public transport
- Wash or sanitise hands frequently
- Don't stand or talk face to face
- Limit your time inside shops and businesses
- Use apps for shopping and ordering food where possible.

As we begin to reopen the economy, it's important that we do not increase the risk of transmission which is why “close proximity” venues such as nightclubs, soft-play areas, indoor gyms, swimming pools, water parks, bowling alleys and spas will need to remain closed for now. The Government is continuing to work with these sectors to establish taskforces to help them to become COVID Secure and reopen as soon as possible.

While the infection rate continues to fall, the Prime Minister has been clear that the public must continue to follow social distancing guidelines to keep coronavirus under control. The Government will keep all measures under constant review and will not hesitate to apply the handbrake, or reverse measures, should the virus begin to run out of control.

*Government press release*

## Bus services back to normal

As of 28th June, most Nottingham City Transport (NCT) services have returned to their normal timetables. This means that the 10, 10C and 10X will resume their normal frequencies, whilst the 3 will make a welcome return after its suspension due to lockdown. However, the N48 night service which travels through the village at weekends will remain suspended for the time being.



NCT has released a new video to reassure its customers that travelling by bus is safe when they follow its “Safer Travel Guidance”. The video summarises the key parts of the guidance which will help people who haven’t used buses during lockdown familiarise themselves with how to travel as government restrictions are relaxed.

The key points are:

- Planning ahead and checking the [online capacity checker](#) at the [NCT website](#) for the latest information, including how quiet or busy the bus is
- Sanitising or washing hands regularly

- Wearing a facial covering (unless exempt for health or welfare reasons)
- Boarding the bus one at a time and keeping apart from other people on board, where possible
- Driver screens which provide a barrier and protection between customers and drivers
- The closure of some seats for social distancing
- Referring to the guidance on board throughout the journey
- The training and guidance NCT drivers have received
- The cleaning of buses, particularly commonly touched surfaces.

NCT is making the video available to local businesses and organisations for sharing, including a version with subtitles, as well as playing it on buses and in its Travel Centre.

The Safer Travel Guidance was first published by the government in May and was later updated to reflect the requirement to wear facial coverings on buses by passengers.

You can read the full guidance and watch the new video at: [www.nctx.co.uk/safertravel](http://www.nctx.co.uk/safertravel). Updated timetables for the 10 and 3 services are also available at the NCT website.

Photo courtesy of Graham Wright via [RUDDINGTON.info](http://RUDDINGTON.info)

## Ruddington Village Market returns



Saturday 4th July sees the long awaited return of Ruddington Village Market. Last held on 7th March, the Ruddington Village Centre Partnership (RVCP) made the decision to cancel the April market before the official lockdown was announced.

But with outdoor markets now permitted to return, the team have been busy planning the relaunch, moving from its usual location at The White Horse Inn to The Green.

"One of the best things about the market has been the way it's become as much a social event as a place to shop," says Mark Pinks, one of the organisers. "Having the stalls close together at The White Horse has been brilliant – there was always a really good atmosphere as people crowded around their favourite stalls – but things aren't the same now.

"We've got to put safety at the top of the list, which means we've really got to space things out. We're really grateful

for the support of Ruddington Parish Council by letting us put the market on The Green, where we've got a lot more room to play with."

"Our main focus is ensuring the safety of all our visitors, traders and volunteers," adds Sue Matthews, Market Manager. "We've planned a layout with clear queues at each stand. The messaging throughout the site will remind people of the social distancing guidelines, with additional volunteers around the market to make sure the rules are followed."

The team promise a market filled with all the usual staples and treats from 9am until 1pm. "We've planned for 25 stalls," says Sue, "with a good mix of local businesses and market favourites".

For more market news, follow @ruddingtonvillagemarket on Facebook and Instagram, or @ruddmarket on Twitter.

## Country Park Manager retires

When Rushcliffe Country Park opened in 1993, Keith Laing, a former coal miner, became its first Ranger. Two years later, he left to undertake various roles for Rushcliffe Borough Council before returning to the Park in 2005 as the Park Manager. At the end of April, he retired after 15 years in this role.

Keith wasn't just a manager in terms of responding to the needs of the wildlife and thousands of human visitors, he was

also very active in the physical work needed to maintain the Park.

“An overriding memory of my time at the park is the great staff and volunteers I’ve worked with,” says Keith. “I’ve been very lucky to have had such hardworking passionate people around me. The volunteers at the Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park work so hard in helping maintain the Park to the very highest standards.”



In the summer of 2011, unbeknown to the Friends, Keith nominated them for The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service, the equivalent of an MBE. They were assessed and ultimately awarded the honour in 2012.

Another accolade that the Park has accrued is the Green Flag Award. Under Keith’s leadership, the Rangers and Friends first gained this award in 2007 – and they’ve managed to retain it annually to the present day.

The Park is also a popular venue for Parkrun, an activity Keith is proud to have helped to set up in 2012. Although his knees prevent him from running too often, he loves seeing the 100s of runners turn up each week.

Keith also acknowledged the support he received from Rushcliffe Borough Council Managers and Councillors, who fully appreciate the benefits that the Park offers to Rushcliffe residents and visitors from further afield.

Keith said that he enjoyed most aspects of the job, both administrative and practical. He admitted the weather could be challenging at times - and he disliked the rain the most!

Due to the pandemic, Keith couldn’t celebrate his retirement but there are plans to get together with his colleagues when possible. He received numerous gifts and cards, and was humbled by the comments in them.

His retirement will give him the chance to only be responsible for himself and he intends to spend lots of time walking with his dog, Meg. He is also volunteering in his home community of Cotgrave. Finally, Keith wanted to personally thank his wife Linda, whose support has enabled him to have such a successful career.

Happy retirement, Keith, from all in Ruddington!

Barbara Breakwell

## Meet our new Parish Councillor

Cheryl-Ann Perkins has recently been co-opted to the Parish Council and now represents Manor Ward. Together with our other new councillors, we'd like to welcome Cheryl-Ann on board.



"I'm 37 and originally from sunny South Africa," says Cheryl-Ann. "I've lived in Ruddington since 2014, where I've finally found home after living in various places across the UK. Ruddington has truly stolen my heart!

"I'm a single lady with no kids except my two cats, Harvey and Minka, who are my very own version of furbabies.

"I love being outdoors the most, and you'll often find me in the garden or trying desperately to tidy up and grow veggies on the allotment."

Adds Cheryl-Ann: "I'm passionate about numerous issues affecting our village, including:

- The environment and how we can improve our green credentials
- The future of the village and how we can stay true to what Ruddington really is
- How we can make Ruddington High Street a hive of the community and activity
- How we can make a broader appeal to all residents in the village
- Parking and facilities that are of value to fellow residents."

You can contact Cheryl-Ann via the Parish Council Office or email her at [cherylann.perkins@gmail.com](mailto:cherylann.perkins@gmail.com).

## Ruddington Diary

With lockdown coming to an end, we can see a gradual return to 'live' events happening in Ruddington, such as the Village Market on Saturday 4th July.

However, it will be a while before our usual lively programme of activities returns in full swing.

There is therefore no diary for this month and we suggest you contact event organisers or check social media pages to find out more about what's happening.

The [Ruddington Mums Facebook page](#) and [RUDDINGTON.info](http://RUDDINGTON.info) are two useful sources of information.

## New travel blog promotes Ruddington

When the travel industry suddenly shut down in March, local Travel Counsellor Leia Morales decided to pivot her usual business of long haul travel – and start promoting Ruddington as a travel destination instead! Her blog, [Travel a Little Closer to Home](#), talks about all the things there are to see and do in our village (when we're not in lockdown).

Amongst other highlights, Leia's blog talks about the historic Rourke's Drift graves at Shaw Street Cemetery, our monthly Village Market, museums, heritage railway and the attractions of Rushcliffe Country Park. And, of course, the virtues of our many pubs, cafes and restaurants get a mention, too!

Explains Leia: "When things went quiet at work, I decided to write some blogs about some of the places I've lived in the UK. As I've been speaking with some of the Ruddington traders, I decided to start with launching Ruddington as a tourist destination, challenging the South West, Lake District and Peak District!

"My plan is that I will write about Ruddington whilst other Travel Counsellors will write about their villages, towns or cities, and we will share each other's blogs."

Leia is also running a series of online seminars to both share her knowledge of overseas destinations and advise travellers what they can expect when they next go abroad.

Leia says: "I hosted a webinar on Japan in June and it went really well. The next one will be on the 7th July and is aimed at families looking to visit Orlando. The experience at the theme parks will be very different in the next 12 months, so I'll be talking a bit about this as well as my top tips for an Orlando holiday. I haven't planned the one after this yet, but I'll be running them every 3 to 4 weeks and will announce on my social media page: <https://www.facebook.com/LeiaMorales.TravelCounsellor/>."

Going on holiday during and after the pandemic is going to look and feel very different, even when air bridges are officially announced. Many people will be looking for reassurance about the experience they will have, and will have concerns about the safety of themselves and their money if they do book. These are things that Leia can discuss on a case by case basis with clients, so they feel confident and can make informed choices.

If you'd like to take part in one of Leia's webinars or are looking for long haul travel advice, please contact her via Facebook or email [leia.morales@travelcounsellors.com](mailto:leia.morales@travelcounsellors.com).

## Floods bring misery to Rudd retailers

Traders on Ruddington's High Street have been mopping up and assessing the damage after torrential rain on 17th June flooded many of their premises. The late afternoon downpour occurred as freak summer weather hit our village just after 5pm, turning roads into rivers in just minutes.



Among those closed by the flooding has been Benwell Daykin Estate Agents – which only began trading in January before COVID-19 Coronavirus forced it to shut its doors two months later. After a brief reopening its office sadly had to shut down again whilst carpets were replaced and water damage repaired.

The newly refurbished Nottinghamshire Hospice Shop premises next door were also badly affected. Water got in under the door and via drains at the back, causing damage to the shop, office and toilet areas. It will now need more new

flooring, new skirting boards and another complete redecoration before it can reopen.

Brand new business Sweet Moments – just two doors further along – also had to abandon its provisional launch plans when the water got in and ruined a lot of the stock. Thankfully the new equipment which had just arrived wasn't affected.

Helen & Simon Beale at Perkins Hardware spent several hours sweeping away the floodwater from inside their shop and cleaning up so that they could reopen – but estimate they lost around £300 of stock which was at floor level.

Denise Selwood of Thomas James Estate Agents at 20, High Street says: "It was definitely a little scary in the offices. We were one of the lucky ones – we have quite a high step and it just came over onto our front mat – which was all the damage we had. The water level increased so quickly. Everyone joined together in the village to help – which was amazing!"

Water also seeped into the premises of Phoenix Flowers and Black Cat Café from the rear but, again, caused no serious damage. Across the High Street, floodwater entered both Coral Bookmakers and Dhaka Delhi. The slightly raised premises of The Frame Breakers pub next door escaped

unscathed.

Mike Ader of traders' support group Ruddington Village Centre Partnership (RVCP) says: "The flooding is so desperately unfortunate given that many shops have only just reopened after the lockdown.

"I'm delighted to see Ruddington traders rallying around each other to help those that have been so severely impacted by the waters."

Mike adds: "RVCP will continue to work really hard in bringing traders together, signposting places to find funds and support and then actively encouraging Ruddington residents to shop locally and support village businesses."

Among those who avoided being badly flooded were the (currently closed) Christopher's Barbers at 16 High Street and The Bottle Top at No.2 High Street.

Alex Preston says: "Thankfully we escaped..... but fingers crossed for no more rain! A big thank you also goes to Jen of The Split Screen Coffee Company and to the builders next door for their help and lending of sand bags!"

Ruddington Post Office and Grange Bakery & Newsagent also reopened the next day as normal – and Jaspers

Café was able to carry on with its "Afternoon Tea" deliveries.

Elsewhere, the news wasn't so good for Ruddington couple Cheryl Stretton and Rory Thorpe at their brand new distillery business, Ruddy Fine. Water poured into its offices – and flooding caused damage to the newly fitted kitchen.

The good news is that the expensive distillation equipment was unaffected – meaning the launch of its new 'London Dry Gin' at The Bottle Top, Frame Breakers, White Horse and Ruddington Village Market on Saturday 4th July will proceed as planned!

Graham Wright via [RUDDINGTON.info](http://RUDDINGTON.info)

## Crime figures for Ruddington

For May 2020, these were as follow:

- 3 x criminal damage
- 3 x theft from motor vehicle
- 1 x attempted theft from motor vehicle
- 1 x theft of plants
- 1 x theft of bike
- 1 x theft from shop

For crime prevention advice, please visit [www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/advice](http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/advice).

## All smiles at The Grange

In 2018, The Grange Bakery and Grange News came together as one business on Church Street, and became known as The Grange.

Operated by the Alton family, the businesses have been serving the village for several years.

During the Covid-19 situation, they've continued to operate as an essential service as they sell takeaway food and drinks, and also provide a news agency.

Mindful of the effect that the enforced change in lifestyle was having on everyone, Tom, who manages the shop, decided in consultation with his family that they'd try and help cheer people up. So, they sought out the smiley flag they'd displayed during the Tour of Britain Bike Race in 2018 and it now flutters above the shop.

"We put it up as we wanted to make people smile," Tom told me. He added: "It would be great if other businesses did the same."

Barbara Breakwell



### **Editor's note:**

*We'd like to say a huge "Thank you!" to all the Ruddington businesses who continued to trade during lockdown, in what were at times very difficult conditions. As lockdown eases, please continue to support them so we can keep growing Ruddington's reputation as a vibrant place to live and work.*

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