

# THE RUDD

## Another national lockdown - let's all do our bit

After several days of uncertainty, the Government took the decision to put England back into national lockdown from Thursday 5th November. And, as pubs, restaurants, non-essential shops and a raft of other businesses closed their doors for the second time this year, Leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council, Councillor Simon Robinson, called on local residents to play their part in helping stop the spread of Covid-19.



Councillor Robinson said: “It’s incredibly important that everybody complies with these new restrictions. I know it’s exceptionally tough on so many of us as residents and business owners but we are in a really serious situation.

“It needs everyone to continue playing their part, starting with staying at home wherever you can and remembering hands, face, space whenever you do leave home for essential reasons. I cannot stress enough how important it is as we go forward we all follow these rules to protect each other and get on top of this virus.

“These measures are very much about protecting everybody in our communities with these huge sacrifices we have to make. I’m disappointed we’re in this again after all we did earlier this year but we are where we are and we’ve got to make that commitment and get on top of this pandemic.”

## What the lockdown means

The second lockdown carries similar restrictions to the first one, although there are some differences – the main one being that schools and universities will remain open, as will the courts.

Key rules and restrictions include:

- You can't meet other people indoors, except for those in your own household and/or support bubble
- Outdoor meetings in public with your household/bubble or with one other person are permitted
- You must stay at home except for specific purposes such as going to work, shopping, for medical reasons and other essential purposes
- Outdoor exercise and recreation is encouraged, in line with the above rules
- You should avoid travel within the UK where possible, with overnight stays only allowed for work purposes
- International travel is prohibited
- Pubs and restaurants must close, but takeaways and deliveries are allowed
- Non-essential shops must close, although essential shops such as supermarkets and hardware stores can sell non-essential items (unlike in Wales)
- Religious services aren't permitted, but you can visit a place of worship to pray in private

- Manufacturing and construction businesses can stay open.

For full details and guidance around the restrictions, please visit [www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november).

## Support for businesses

The second national lockdown will be a cruel blow to many traders in our village – especially our hospitality outlets who worked so hard to comply with the ever-changing rules and restrictions that came in after the first lockdown ended in July.

The government has announced an enhanced package of support for businesses during the period of enforced closure, or to provide financial aid if they're able to keep trading. For full details of the support available, please visit [www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support).

## Neighbourhood Plan – final consultation

As you might expect, Covid-19 has had an impact on the progress of our Neighbourhood Plan.

However, we're pleased to inform you that the final Consultation on the Plan has now been organised. Rushcliffe Borough Council, our planning authority, will be conducting the consultation which will run from **Friday 6th November 2020** until **Friday 18th December 2020**.

By now, you'll probably be aware of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan, which includes the possibility of housing development at a further four sites in Ruddington in addition to those already approved. Whilst we all hope this won't happen, the Neighbourhood Plan is the means by which our Community has a direct impact upon *any* future building in Ruddington. The Plan carries weight in law, so please don't think it's not worth taking part. On the contrary, it's vital that you do!

When the Consultation commences, you'll be able to access the Plan, and comment on it at the Ruddington section of Rushcliffe's Neighbourhood Plan web page: <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/planningpolicy/neighbourhoodplanning/>.

If you're unable (or reluctant) to access the internet, please contact the Parish Council and they'll arrange for you to view the Neighbourhood Plan and complete a paper copy of the Consultation. Please note that paper submissions must include your name.

Whether you comment online or on paper, you're not limited to one submission per household – everyone living at your address can comment if they wish. Once complete, paper copies can be submitted to John King at Rushcliffe Borough Council, or be returned to the Parish Council Office who'll submit them for you.

Please find the time to take part in this Consultation. It is a vitally important contribution to the future of our village. The more people contribute, the more representative the Neighbourhood Plan will ultimately be.

Paul Reedman, Neighbourhood Plan Subcommittee

## Ruddington Diary

Due to the ongoing situation with Covid-19 and the new national lockdown (see separate article), there is no diary for this month. We suggest you contact event organisers and venues, or check social media pages, to find out more about what's happening. The [Ruddington Mums Facebook page](#) and [RUDDINGTON.info](#) are two useful sources of information.

We urge residents to follow Government advice by following social distancing guidelines and wearing face coverings where required, such as in shops and when using public transport. Please also note the requirement to avoid going outdoors except for exercise and recreation, and to only travel for specific, permitted purposes.

*Please note that the 2020 Ruddington Christmas Market and Fayre, due to take place on Saturday 28th November, has been cancelled. The November Village Market, scheduled for Saturday 7th November, will also no longer take place.*

## Remembrance 2020



As a result of Covid-19 restrictions, the British Legion and the Parish Council won't be holding the usual Remembrance Parade and Service at the War Memorial this year.

Instead, the Chairman of the Parish Council, the Armed Forces Community Champion and a Borough Councillor will lay wreaths at the Memorial on Wednesday 11th November 2020.

If you wish to contribute to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, a stand is placed at the bottom of St Peter's Rooms driveway every Saturday morning.

In addition to this, The Royal British Legion have put together a range of suggested Covid-safe activities that are inexpensive to create. These include:

- Holding a small Remembrance service in your garden.
- Creating a Remembrance space in your garden by planting plants that have a connection to Remembrance.
- Using Zoom, Facebook or another online meeting resource to host an

online Remembrance service or activity.

- Setting up a community Remembrance forum to discuss different residents' Remembrance stories.
- Creating an online exhibition of Remembrance-related photos from local residents, that schools or others could use to discuss local Remembrance activities.
- Doing an online interview with a local veteran or someone currently serving to discuss what service and sacrifice means to them. You could send people the link and create an online audience.
- Opening an online book of Remembrance that family, friends and others can sign as a mark of Remembrance.
- Writing letters of Remembrance to veterans or serving personnel.
- Using The Royal British Legion Remembrance education activities to help children learn about Remembrance.
- Creating your own Remembrance art piece using The Royal British Legion teaching resources – children and families could be asked to display something in their window like the rainbows for the NHS.

You can find more information about these activities at <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance>.

The Royal British Legion has also launched a virtual Field of Remembrance, where you can virtually plant your tribute from home and explore other tributes that have been created to remember the fallen. Visit <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/remember-a-loved-one/virtual-fields-of-remembrance> for details.

## **“Thank you” from Rushcliffe Rotary**

The Rushcliffe Rotary Club would like to send a huge “thank you” to everyone who responded to their appeal for surplus tools on behalf of the Tools for Self-Reliance charity.

In total, 14 boxes of tools, a workmate bench and seven sewing machines were collected. These will be dispatched to the charity for sorting, refurbishing, packing and shipping to the Rotary’s training partner organisations in Africa.

The tools will not only provide opportunities for people to learn a trade such as carpentry, tailoring, welding and bricklaying, but will also provide them with a skill for life. After training the graduates are given donated tool kits which, together with lessons on business management,

enable them to set up their own business and become self-reliant.



For more information, please visit [www.tfsr.org.uk](http://www.tfsr.org.uk). If you’d like to learn more about Rotary, please contact us at [www.rushclifferotary.org.uk](http://www.rushclifferotary.org.uk), or find us on Facebook by searching for “Rushcliffe Rotary Club”.

Kip Herrington

## **Nottingham Mental Health Helpline**

Have you been struggling with the stress of the Coronavirus pandemic? Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed by your emotions?

The Nottinghamshire Mental Health Helpline is here for you. You talk, they listen and they help.

The Helpline offers support for people who need emotional support or information about their mental health, providing personalised advice and signposting to other organisations for longer term support.

Their website has free online resources which are available immediately. The “Find Out More” guides provide you with the latest information and advice about a wide range of health and wellbeing topics.

“Bitesize” provides the three most important psychological strategies which you can work through in a matter of minutes, and apply helpful techniques straightaway.

The Nottinghamshire Mental Health Helpline number is 0300 555 0730. It’s open from 9am to 11pm, 7 days a week. For more information and mental health resources, please visit [www.turning-point.co.uk/nottingham-helpline](http://www.turning-point.co.uk/nottingham-helpline).

## Support in finding work



Many people are now looking for work due to the impact of Covid-19 on businesses and the economy. I’m a local Ruddington resident and I work at a Nottingham company called Futures.

We’re a not for profit organisation and our goal is to support people to find a job, look at their career options and also to help people being made redundant. By helping people with their jobs and

careers, we can support our local economy and its residents.

Whether you’re employed, in education, looking for a career change, unemployed or have been made redundant, you can access information advice, guidance and support.

Futures is a free-to-access service for adults, young people and employers alike. We can provide support on a range of career and job search topics, including: CVs and covering letters, application forms, courses and training, job searching, interview preparation, careers advice, apprenticeships, redundancy support and voluntary work.

Futures has strong local knowledge on courses, training and employers that are recruiting. We also provide workshops for employers to support their staff who are facing redundancy. We can give advice face to face (when possible), over the phone or through digital channels and will support you for 12 months.

If you’d like to access support from Futures, please email me at [paul.clifton@futuresforyou.com](mailto:paul.clifton@futuresforyou.com). You can also visit our website for further information at <https://www.futuresforyou.com/>. And if you know anyone that needs help with job searching or careers advice, please pass on my email address.

Paul Clifton, Futures

## Rushcliffe Country Park receives 14th consecutive Green Flag Award!

Rushcliffe Country Park has received its fourteenth consecutive Green Flag Award, acknowledging the green space as one of the very best parks in the UK.

In October, the outdoor area was again named among a record-breaking 2,061 UK parks and green spaces that have received the award which is the mark of a quality park or green space.



Rushcliffe Borough Council's Portfolio Holder for Community and the Environment Councillor, Abby Brennan, visited the Country Park to watch the flag raising in a Covid-19 secure ceremony and hear more about the work of local stakeholders.

Councillor Brennan said: "It is brilliant that the Country Park has received the Green Flag Award for another year running, highlighting the hard work and dedication of our staff and great volunteers.

"The importance of green space has been highlighted even more so during Covid-19 and parks such as this allow thousands of residents and visitors to visit and enjoy the fresh air.

"It is also a celebration of the great work the volunteers carry out so we would like to thank them again in their help to receive this prestigious accreditation once more."

Chair of Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park Dorothy Pearson said: "We're really pleased to be able to raise the Green Flag at the park for yet another year.

"This year we were not able to do as much work as we'd hoped due to Covid-19, but safe work is now starting to pick up again. It's great to receive the award for the fourteenth year and shows all of our efforts don't go unnoticed."

The international award is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.

For more information about the Country Park and details on how to plan your next visit, please visit <http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/rushcliffecountrypark/>.

Rushcliffe Borough Council

## Edible Ruddington

With so much time recently spent around our lovely village (and with the benefits of being out of the house clear for all to see, this year more than most), we became inspired by other groups such as the Incredible Edible movement and Abundance Keyworth, and decided we'd like to create something similar in Ruddington.

So, Edible Ruddington has been born! We're still very much in the early stages of planning and deciding what might be possible, but our main objectives are to:

- Enhance our community spaces by growing fruit, veg and herbs in "unloved" areas of the village for anyone to pick and use.
- Inspire people to grow their own and suggest ideas for how to use the produce.
- "Map" fruit trees in the village (public trees plus any private ones where help is needed to harvest) and arrange harvesting and distributing, to make the most of produce already in our village.
- Distribute excess produce to those in need.
- Promote the benefits of gardening and spending time in outdoor spaces.

Whilst we're planning now, we realise the main planting season begins in spring, so we plan to hit the ground running (or digging!) then.

We've already been in touch with Ruddington Gardeners Association and, thanks to Ruddington Parish Council, we now have responsibility for the planters around the Elms Park playground. So, we'll be starting small and then we hope to identify other areas and grow – literally!

So, if you're a gardener and could give advice, belong to a local group and would like to take part, want to learn more about growing your own and give a helping hand for an hour, are willing and able to make planters/signs, or have any other skills and/or ideas please do get in touch at [edibleruddington@gmail.com](mailto:edibleruddington@gmail.com).

You can also find us on Facebook; search for "Edible Ruddington" or follow this link to join our group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/385260079142862>.

We'd love to hear from you – and absolutely no experience or knowledge are required.

Gwen, Emily, Liz and Alex (the Edible Ruddington team)

*Social distancing and local / national Covid-19 restrictions will of course be observed at all times.*

## Borough Council launches MyAccount service

Rushcliffe residents can now access a wide range of Council services online by using MyAccount, a one stop shop for information, advice and resources from Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Accessed via the Council website, you can use the platform to check your bin calendar, report issues to the Council, pay for services, or apply for additional support – all from the same site.

You can also manage your garden waste collections with MyAccount, meaning you can sign up for the popular service, pay for additional green bins for your property and check when your next green bin collection is due, all in the same place.

To register for the new online service, visit the MyAccount homepage (<https://selfservice.rushcliffe.gov.uk/Login>) and create an account linked to your home address.

These details will generate lots of helpful information relating to your property, including when your next grey, blue or green bin collections will take place, how to contact your local Councillors and quick links to report any issues in the Borough.

Once registered, you can log back in at any time to access all the features and contact the Council quickly and easily.

Rushcliffe Borough Council's Deputy Leader Councillor Andy Edyvean said: "This is a wonderful development that means residents can easily keep our teams informed on a wide area of issues that matter most to them.



"Once registered, households can report anything from a missed bin collection, to an overgrown hedge with just a few clicks online without the need to call our Customer Service Centre.

"Not only will this create a more efficient system for residents to let us know about updates or concerns in their community, but it will also mean our teams can access all the information they need to take necessary actions quickly and effectively.

"I encourage all Rushcliffe residents to follow the link and create a MyAccount profile and explore the extensive list of services and assistance they can now access online."

Rushcliffe Borough Council

## Did you know about “what3words”?

What3words is now used by 80% of the emergency services in the UK and has helped to locate nearly 4,000 incidents since it first started being used. It’s also used by other agencies including the National Grid, Network Rail and the Environment Agency, enabling communities to accurately report the location of a wide range of emergencies, incidents and crimes.



The what3words system works by assigning every 3m square in the world a unique identifier made up of 3 words – making the location of any emergency or incident very easy to describe and share. For example, **///tortoise.swarm.announce** will take you to a precise location on Ben Nevis where, in February 2020, a group of hikers were rescued.

To make sure you’re prepared in the event of an incident or emergency, download the free what3words app

from iOS (Apple) or Android by following this link: <https://app.what3words.com/FOAi8ApWj9>.

If you later need to report a crime, incident or emergency at any point, the relevant service will ask you to give the 3 words that will identify its location. To do this, follow these simple steps:

1. Open the what3words app and tap the “Locate me” icon.
2. Your location’s what3words address will be displayed at the bottom of the screen.
3. Say it over the phone or copy and paste it into a text message.

Please wait for the blue dot to stabilise to ensure the most accurate what3words address displays on your screen.

You can also use “compass mode” to check your accuracy. GPS signals are weak inside buildings so if you’re indoors, manually select the square you need for greater accuracy.

To find your home’s what3words address, enter your street address into the app, then zoom in and switch to “satellite mode” for more detail. Select the square that’s closest to the main entrance to your home.

For further details, please visit the what3words website at [www.what3words.com](http://www.what3words.com).

## Santa's Sleigh and Covid-19

For many people, the tradition of the Rotary Club's Santa and Sleigh visiting local communities signals the start of the festive season. More importantly, the visits have raised tens of thousands of pounds for good causes over the years.



Sadly, the prevalence of Coronavirus has meant that this year we won't be able to undertake the usual sleigh rounds with door to door collections. To do so would put our club members, volunteer collectors and the public at risk.

However, we're still hoping to take Santa and his sleigh on a number of "no stopping" tours around local communities. Although we won't be knocking on doors, we hope the presence of our sleigh will cheer onlookers in these difficult times.

To help compensate for the loss of income from the sleigh rounds, we're

also planning to increase the number of static collections as these are easier to put risk assessment measures in place for these, to protect both helpers and members of the public.

The details of Santa's Sleigh tours and the static collections will be announced next month.

Kip Herrington

The Rotary Club of Rushcliffe

## Crime figures for Ruddington

For September 2020, these were as follows:

- 2 x criminal damage
- 1 x burglary
- 2 x burglary & car theft (1 suspect arrested)
- 6 x theft from shop
- 1 x attempted theft from shop (offender detained)
- 3 x attempted theft from vehicle
- 2 x theft of catalytic converter
- 2 x theft of number plates
- 1 x theft of garden furniture
- 1 x theft of bicycle
- 1 x public order offence
- 1 x fly tipping

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

# Green Homes Grants

The Green Homes Grant has been announced, giving homeowners vouchers to help cover the cost of energy efficiency improvements to their home such as loft, wall and floor insulation, and low-carbon heating systems.

As well as primary improvements like these, you can also use the grant for secondary items such as double glazing, as long as these don't cost any more than the primary improvements. (Note that funding isn't available for gas or oil-fired heating systems.)

## About the vouchers

For most people, the vouchers will be worth about two thirds of the cost of the work, up to a maximum of £5,000 per household. So, if work is completed which costs £4,500 for example, you'll receive a voucher for £3,015 towards the bill.

If you receive one of the qualifying state benefits, you may be entitled to a voucher covering all the cost of the work, up to a limit of £10,000.

Please note that only government-approved traders can carry out works under the Green Homes Grant scheme, and you can't apply for a grant unless you've sourced your quotes from approved suppliers.

## How to apply for a voucher

Firstly, please visit the Simple Energy website at <https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/green-homes-grant/questionnaire> to check your eligibility and find out about the types of improvements that could be made to your home. You'll also find a list of approved traders to choose from.

Next, apply for your Green Homes Grant voucher using this government website: <https://green-homes-grant.service.gov.uk/>.

You can get help with your application from the government's Simple Energy Advice Service by calling 0800 444 202.

Via Rushcliffe Borough Council

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