

Scruton News

www.scruton.net

April 2024



**Happy Easter
to all our readers**

Community Resilience Plan

Enclosed with this newsletter is the final draft of Scruton's Community Resilience Plan, prepared by our Parish Council. If you have any questions or comments or have further ideas regarding the plan, please contact Scruton Parish Council (see overleaf for their details).



Nature Notes

by Andy Johnston

Finally, on the afternoon of the 12 March, the wind moved into the west to herald the end of winter. Within days hedges greened up, and magnolias, cherry trees, and daffodils came into full bloom in response to warmer weather. The first brimstone butterflies and queen wasps appeared, and chiffchaffs began to arrive. Lawnmowers were quickly brought out as the grass suddenly grew. Those of you who are gardeners would have seen that bumble bees were active and ladybirds emerging. Some of you have been surprised to find significant numbers of harlequin ladybirds hibernating in your properties.



Harlequin Ladybird

They are an invasive species which arrived in southern England in 2004 and have rapidly dispersed throughout the UK. They are harmless, similar in size to our native ladybirds and are orange/red in colour with lots of black spots. Their major drawback is that if squashed, they have a defensive yellow chemical secretion which stains and is very difficult to remove. Those of you with ponds should have plenty of frog spawn by now, and even newts and toads. Elaine tells me that amongst a varied selection of birds on her feeders she has had siskins recently. Swallows, martins, warblers will be here in just a few days!!



Farming News

by Malcolm Barker

In his book, 'A Brief History of Life in the Middle Ages', Martyn Whittock explains how solar activity affected the weather throughout history. Between the years 800 - 1300 the sun showed greater activity and harvests were generally bountiful. This period is now described as the mediaeval warm period and populations rose. From 1450 to 1850 a period of reduced solar activity led to a colder climate, and this became known as the 'Little Ice Age'. Harvests were poorer and the population, already devastated by the plague, struggled to grow. Historically, the activity of the sun ruled the lives of our forebears.

On the farm, I have spent many hours of each day bottle feeding lambs. 17 pet lambs needed feeding thrice daily and after a few weeks, the pleasure soon wore off the job. All the lambs were still with their mothers, so had to be fed individually or in pairs. Grass is now starting to grow due to a warmer, wetter spring. Sowing of spring crops has been delayed and I have given up on any chance of picking some worthwhile potatoes from last year's harvest.



Scruton Sky at Night

by Graham Dodds

A Total Eclipse of the Sun - occurs on 8 April across North America. If you are lucky enough to travel to the USA, you may witness one of nature's greatest spectacles! The eclipse will track across Dallas, Texas; Indianapolis, Indiana; Cleveland, Ohio; Buffalo/Niagara Falls in New York State; and Montreal, Canada.

UK Partial Eclipse - will occur over the whole of Northern Ireland and Eire; most of Wales and Scotland; North-West England and small parts of the extreme South-West. Obviously, your eyes need protection: special eclipse glasses must meet ISO 12312-2 standards.



Thankful Ale Scruton IPA

Available for local delivery at £27.50 for a case of 12 bottles, cash on delivery or BACS details on request. Call Richard (Chalky) on 07545 123 856 or message via village WhatsApp or Facebook. Every bottle sold raises money for the village.



Gardeners' World

by Elizabeth Davies

Despite more weeks of rain, the spring flowers are looking very cheerful, and the daffodils have benefited from the wet weather. A scattering of fish, blood and bone now will help feed the bulbs for next year. My favourite is the old Pheasants Eye with white petals and a tiny red and yellow centre with a beautiful perfume. It is the last one to flower in May, so daffodils give a long display of spring colour from February to May. Now is the time to cut down the foliage of penstemon which has been protecting the new growth over the winter. It is also time to cut down any ornamental grasses as the new shoots will be starting to grow.



If you have sown sweet peas indoors, they will be growing quickly and need to have the growing tips cut out which will make them bushy. It is not too late to sow them, 3-4 in a pot, and then you will have a succession of flowers. Hopefully, if the ground is dry enough, I will plant my first ones in a wigwam of canes or better still hazel branches. In the vegetable garden it is time to put in onions and shallots and early potatoes, although at the Allotments the ground is still too wet after all the flooding, and I am going to start my onions in pots and then transplant when the ground is drier.



GQT in Scruton

Gardeners' Question Time returns on the evening of Thursday 18 April with two experts from RHS Harlow Carr: Otto is a second-year apprentice and has lots of all round knowledge, Andrew is a biodiversity specialist and loves growing fruit and veg. A third speaker will make up the panel to give a short talk and answer your growing and gardening queries. The evening will include a bar, and Raffle for Harlow Carr tickets & tour.

Cost is £10 per person on the door incl. a free drink, or £8 in advance from shop.scrutonallotments.org.uk



Services at St Radegund's

All services at St Radegund's are on Sunday at 9:30 am except where stated. The Rev. Jenni Lane may be contacted on 01609 631122.

- 7 Apr** Holy Communion, Lesley Ashton
- 14 Apr** Morning Worship, Paul
- 21 Apr** Holy Communion, Jenni & Stasi
- 24 Apr** Evensong (Wed 7pm), Jenni, Stasi
- 28 Apr** Morning Worship, Stasi
- 5 May** Holy Communion, Jenni



Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning on **Saturday 20 April**, 10 - 12 in the village hall, will be in aid of Scruton Station. Donations of Raffle Prizes and items for the Cake Stall would be appreciated. Please attach a list of ingredients for cakes & produce. Contact Jacqueline on 01609 748 712.



Petrolheads

Our next meeting is on **Thurs 11 April**, 7:30 pm at the Coore Arms. All are welcome. Call Alan on 01609 748 712.



Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club is on **Sunday 14 April**, 12:30 pm at the Coore Arms. Please contact Alyson Tonge if you wish to participate, Tel 01609 748 227 or email alysontonge@gmail.com

Kirkby Fleetham WI

Visitors are welcome to join us for a talk by Sam Spence (founder member of the 'Yarn Bombers') on **Thursday 11 April**, 7:15 pm at Kirkby Fleetham village hall. For details call Carol Barron, 01609 748 315, or carolinesboxes@gmail.com



Letters to the Editor

Trevor Howe – If anyone would like to send a card to Tony Hoare, he is at Hillcrest Care Home, Byng Rd, Catterick Garrison DL9 4DN, (Tel 01748 834 444).

Scruton Playing Field AGM

Our AGM will take place on **Wednesday 24 April**, 7:30pm in the Coore Memorial Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may raise questions at the meeting. Queries ahead of the meeting can be sent to: scrutonpfa@gmail.com



Screen Scruton

Wednesday 10 April
7:30 pm in the Village Hall



The one dream of the women of Ballygar to taste freedom is to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes.

Maggie Smith, Laura Linney & Kathy Bates.

With subtitles, café style seating, bring your own drinks & nibbles. Admission free (donations in aid of the village hall).

Please email Stephen Elmer at stephen.elmer@scruton.net

Dates for your Diary

Scruton Fest – Live music, food & drink, stalls and much more on Scruton Playing field on **Saturday 22 June**.

Jazz in the Garden – Bring your own drinks & picnic to the Old Rectory garden on **Sunday 7 July**. 1940s theme (D-Day plus one month), donations in aid of the Royal British Legion.

Fireworks Quiz Nights – Sunday evenings on **26 May** and **25 August** at the Coore Arms.

SJB Next Gig – at Bedale Riverside Community Club, 7pm on **11 May**. Free tickets from Susan, 07776 145 529 or email susan@susanrogers.me.uk

Thank You Slot

Jan & Ian Hobson - write to express their gratitude, 'to all in Scruton who have supported us following the death of our grandson Toby, and also during the 17 years since his tragic birth. Thank you all, it has meant so much'.

Lent Lunch - Thank you to everyone who supported and helped at our Lent Lunch. Over £100 was donated to St Radegund's Church Fabric Fund.

Coffee Morning – The final amount raised for Marie Curie Care was £436.30

From the Parish Council

By Cllr. Syd Nye (Chairman)

74 Bus - We have been informed that the Bedale-Northallerton bus will resume half hourly services from 8 April and will stop on request at Scruton Lane End.

D-Day 80 Commemoration – there will be a short memorial service on the Village Green with Beacon Lighting on the evening of **6 June 2024**. More details to follow nearer the time, however, if anyone has any other suggestions to add please get in touch.

Salt Bins – it is disappointing to have to reiterate that these bins are for storing road salt, and not for depositing dog refuse bags or other rubbish. There are plenty of waste bins nearby, so this should not happen.

Potholes – SPC have again reported the potholes on village roads. We would urge residents to also report them on the NYC website; they are more likely to be repaired if more people complain.

SPC Vacancies – We are looking for two Parish Councillors and a Parish Clerk. If you feel you can contribute to making the village a better place, please get in touch; age is no barrier.

The Copy Deadline for the next Scruton News is 23 APRIL

Coore Memorial Hall

For all enquiries, please email villagehall@scruton.net

Scruton Parish Councillors

Chris Barron (Clerk)	01609 748 315	ronald.barron315@gmail.com
Maurice Daley	01609 748 198	maurice@mdpuk.co.uk
Trevor Howe	01609 748 355	tdhscruton@gmail.com
Syd Nye (Chair)	01609 748 464	syd@nyeref.co.uk
Mike Widmer	01609 748 392	mstonemole@gmail.com

North Yorkshire Councillor (Morton-on-Swale & Appleton Wiske)

Annabel Wilkinson 01677 426 744 cldr.annabel.wilkinson@northyorks.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings 2024

The public are welcome to attend council meetings in the Coore Memorial Hall, starting at 7:30 pm.

11 April (Annual Parish Meeting), 9 May (AGM)

Scruton News is published by Scruton Parish Council and edited by Stephen Elmer. Please note - the editor reserves the right to make changes for editorial reasons; some views may not be those of the Parish Council.

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To send messages please contact Janet Crampton on 07540 503030 or janetcrampton@icloud.com