

Scruton News

www.scruton.net September 2024



Safari Supper



First come, first served – The closing date for the safari supper draw is **Sun 15 September**. The number of couples participating needs to be divisible by 3 for the draw to work, so any late replies may be kept as reserves.

The money raised this year will go to St Michael's Hospice in memory of our dear friend and neighbour Carol Thompson. If you would like to take part on **Sat 19 October**, please call Karen on 07876 340184 or karenrachel69@gmail.com



Gardeners' World

by Elizabeth Davies

A month of little rain, high temperatures and strong winds, a combination leading to many plants dying without flowering properly, especially if you have heavy clay soil. The phlox in my garden came into flower and quickly died back, so no alternative but to cut them down ready for winter, most disappointing. I visited Harlow Car RHS Garden at Harrogate last week; their borders are wonderful, but they are watering constantly.

Annuals grown in containers for the summer do need feeding and watering regularly. If you deadhead them, almost a daily job, they will keep flowering for several weeks yet. Petunias especially have done well this year and there are some very good begonias in containers around the village which have withstood our strange summer weather.



Most varieties of lavender have finished flowering and need to be cut back to prevent them from becoming too straggly. Don't cut back into the old wood, leave some green shoots as they don't always regrow if cut too hard. Help any tomatoes to ripen by taking off the bottom leaves. Keep working upwards until there are hardly any leaves left; this also prevent new shoots forming as it is too late now for new fruit.



Farming News

by Malcolm Barker

As you read this, you will have noticed how the nights are drawing in. The light nights are slipping away quicker in the autumn than they arrived in the spring, which, I think, is due to the tilt in the polar axis. We are reaching 'solar maximum' so can expect more displays of aurora like the ones we have had in recent months.

On this farm I am still waiting to complete the barley harvest because it was late sown and flooded afterwards. Much of the low-lying crop will cost more in fuel than it will yield in grain and the only reason for harvesting it is to tidy the field up for next year.

I am expecting poor yields of potatoes this year, because the wet spring encouraged them to keep their roots shallow, and the droughty conditions of the last 3 months have left the plants short of water. Do I want a lot of rain now? Certainly not, because any wet weather at this stage will cause the tubers to split as they soak up moisture, which means that most potatoes will have unsightly growth cracks.



Scruton Sky-at-Night

by Graham Dodds

The night sky is getting darker! Darkness is broken down into Civil, Nautical and Astronomical 'periods', which vary over the year; go to: www.clearoutside.com to see these variations. The Autumn Equinox occurs on 22 Sept, when we'll have equal periods of day and night.

Comets/Meteors – August's Perseid display was disappointing, mainly due to 'cloud'. Comet Tsuchinsan - ATLAS will become visible from 26 Sept. low in the east at around 6 am; it will peak in Oct.

Constellations - Andromeda and the "Square of Pegasus" enter from the E and then SE. On a clear night, follow the bottom RH point of the W of Cassiopeia, lying NE, you may glimpse the faint 'fuzz' of the Andromeda galaxy M31!

Planets - Gas giants, Jupiter (NE) and Saturn (S) will appear as autumn comes. Compared to these, Mercury or Uranus are of a lower 'magnitude' and best viewed with a small telescope or binoculars. Magnitude is a measure of brightness and is a subject worth covering in future 'Night Sky' articles.

Allotment Plots Available



We have two plots available at Scruton Allotments for villagers who want to join a friendly community of growers and grow their own fruit and veg. For details go to www.scrutonallotments.org.uk



Nature Notes

by Andy Johnston

Virtually every spring a queen wasp builds a golf ball sized nest on the inside roof of my garden shed. Despite the door being open during the day, they insist on going into the shed through a small vent in the apex. This is because wasps, like many colonial insects, create a pheromone or scent trail, which can last a long time and probably accounts for the remnants of nine nests in the shed! A queen began building this spring, but disappeared after a week, probably killed off by the inclement weather. This week I spotted a worker wasp in the garden, and it is the first year we have not had a wasp nest in our property.

Butterflies have also been decimated by the cold spring and poor July weather. Apparently, the Jet Stream has stuck in a pattern further south than normal and brought us a succession of depressions, resulting in cooler temperatures than normal and higher than average rainfall in many places, but fortunately not here in 'Sunny Scruton'. If you have ever wondered why gulls are often seen perched squawking on High Street roofs, it is because they are resident and breed on the flat roofs of warehouses along the Darlington Road. In Sam Turner's car park, I recently saw a pair of young ones make their maiden flight after much calling from their parents.



Recent sightings include a merlin near the sewage works and a spotted wood butterfly in the Old Rectory garden.



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.

- 1 Sep** Holy Communion, Stasi
- 8 Sep** Holy Communion, Stasi
- 15 Sep** No service in Scruton
- 22 Sep** Harvest Festival with Holy Communion, Jenni
- 25 Sep** Evensong (Wed at 7pm), Paul
- 29 Sep** Benefice Holy Communion (11:00 am at Ainderby Steeple)
- 6 Oct** Morning Worship, Paul

The Harvest Festival Service will be on **Sunday 22 September**, 9:30 am at St Radegund's Church.

Harvest FoodShare Collection will be from **13 to 23 September**. Further details will follow on **Network Scruton**.



Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper will be on **Friday 13 September** at 7:30 pm in the village hall. Tickets at £10 per person to include supper and a glass of wine, available from Josie Exelby, tel 07837 337 592 or email jo.xlb@hotmail.co.uk



Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning, on **Saturday, 21 September**, will be in aid of our Charity Fund, which we use for the donations we make at Christmas.



Petrolheads

The next road trip on **Thurs 12 Sept** will be the last Petrolheads event organised by Alan Harpley (01609 748 712 for details).

Starting next month, James Charnley has agreed to run Petrolheads in the future. Call 07774 228 895 or email james.chnarley24@gmail.com with any suggestions for future activities.

Scruton Parish Councillors

Chris Barron (Admin)	01609 748 315	ronald.barron315@gmail.com
John Cherry	01609 748 573	johnhcherry@btinternet.com
Maurice Daley (Chair)	07881 443 248	maurice@mdpuk.co.uk
Trevor Howe (Vice Chair)	01609 748 355	tdhscruton@gmail.com
Syd Nye	01609 748 464	syd@nyeref.co.uk

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

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

Graeme Nicholson (Oct 1935 – July 2024)

Wendy Nicholson writes, My family and I were overwhelmed by the cards and kind messages we received in the days after the death of my dear husband Graeme. We appreciate every one. I want to thank in particular those people who helped to make the service at St Radegund's church and afterwards at the village hall, such heart-warming occasions.

Thank You Slots

Jan Arundell – would like to thank everyone who sent cards, flowers and well wishes after her recent surgery. They were much appreciated.

Stephen Elmer – thanks everyone who visited his garage clear-out at the Old Rectory. A donation of £70 has been sent to the Royal British Legion.



Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club is on **Sun 15 Sept**, 12:30 pm at the Coore Arms. If you wish to join us, please call 748 227 or email Alyson at alysontonge@gmail.com



Book Club

Scruton Book Club starts again on **24 September**, hosted by Di Stockeld, 2:30 pm at East Lea, Common Lane. New members are welcome to an informal afternoon discussion about their summer reads and news-and-views about films, theatre, TV, exhibitions and any other topics of broad cultural interest, including books of course! For more details contact Janet Crampton on 07540 503 030 or email janetcrampton@icloud.com

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.

Scruton Ladies Evening Do

The next SLED for drinks and supper is on **Wed 25 September**, 7 pm at the Coore Arms. Please let Helen know in good time on 0785 2998 033 or email helen_allison@icloud.com

Kirkby Fleetham WI

Join us on **Thurs 12 Sept**, to learn about 'Bloodrun EVS' (volunteers transporting medical items for the NHS), 7:15 pm at Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall. For details call Carol Barron on 01609 748 315, or email carolinesboxes@gmail.com

From the Parish Council

By Cllr. Syd Nye

Dogs - SPC are pleased that there have been no reports from the Dog Warden and no further complaints this month about dog fouling in and around the village.

Vacancies - We are still looking for another Councillor and more importantly a Parish Clerk. The Clerk is fundamental to the running of SPC. It is a paid position and would suit someone who likes organising and would like to help make Scruton a better place.



Letters to the Editor

From Trevor Howe – Debris in the form of dead branches has been spread around the playing field for the past 2 years, causing a serious risk of damage to the hydraulic grass cutting equipment. If anyone has any knowledge who is responsible, could they let us know.

The Copy Deadline for the next Scruton News is 25 SEPTEMBER



Coore Memorial Hall

For all enquiries, please email villagehall@scruton.net

Parish Council Meetings 2024

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

12 September 14 November

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