

Scruton News



Scruton Parish Council

April 2020



Fight COVID-19

As you would predict in Scruton, there has been an immediate and positive response to the call that went out on **Network Scruton** for people in the village to help each other. If you would like to add your name to the growing list of volunteers (especially if you are young & fit) please contact one of the people named below.

Scruton's Neighbourly Response to Covid-19

Can't risk going out?

Need help with food shopping, prescriptions, posting mail, etc?

Any other urgent essentials?

HELP IS AT HAND...

There are many villagers who can collect items for you, or take you to essential appointments. Others can help solve household problems, or just phone for a friendly chat.

A register of these offers is held by:

Janet Crampton, 07540 503 030
janetcrampton@icloud.com

Stephen Elmer, 07891 744 198
stephen.elmer@scruton.net

Rachel Watkinson, 07905 554401
accounts@jw4x4.co.uk

If you need help, send an email, phone or text and they'll put you in touch with someone who can help. All the people on the list are fellow villagers who we know and trust.

Keep in touch via Network Scruton!

Now, more than ever, it's important to stay in touch with what's happening in and around the village; how people and local businesses are adapting to new restrictions and what help or support is available in the community.

The best way to do this is to ensure you are subscribed to **Network Scruton**. You can do this on the village web site home page. You only need give your name and email address, it's that easy!

And don't forget, you will also need to re-subscribe if your email has changed.

Spring is Here, with a host of golden daffodils...

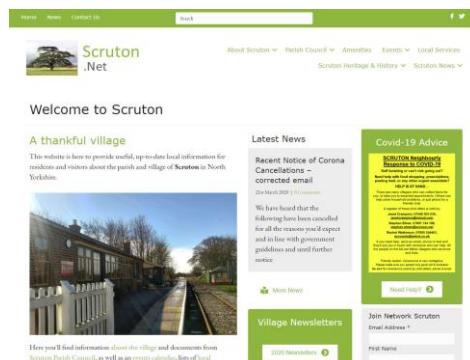


Website Relaunch

www.scruton.net

The village website has a new look and has been refreshed to provide up to date information for the village and parish of Scruton.

As well as documents from Scruton Parish Council, you'll find a handy map, lists of local amenities and services, information on Scruton history and heritage, and links to other local websites.



If you have any ideas, suggestions or content that you'd like to see on the website, use the enquiry form under the Contact page on the site to let us know.

'Welcome to Scruton'

A New Village Information Booklet has been delivered to every house in the parish along with this newsletter. The plan had been to launch this publication at the newcomers Welcome Evening on 27 March, which of course is now postponed until after the coronavirus crisis. In the meantime, you may be interested to see the updated Useful Local Information and perhaps enjoy reading more about Scruton and the other amenities available in the village, which hopefully will all be up and running again once we get past the current emergency.



Nature Notes

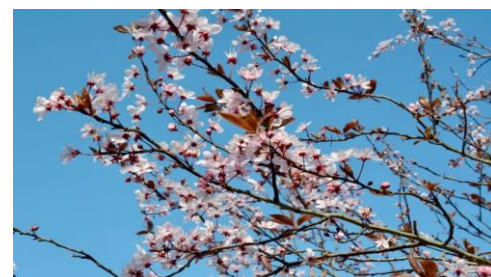
By Andy Johnston

Spring has finally arrived, the dawn chorus is well underway and skylarks are singing. Daylight is rapidly increasing, encouraging the re-birth of plant and animal life. Those of you with ponds will no doubt have plenty of frog spawn (photo thanks to Liz Davies) which will be followed by toad spawn towards the end of April.



Chiffchaffs have arrived and within the next couple of weeks willow warblers, blackcaps and yellow wagtails will be here. For those of you who walk by the Swale, house martins will soon arrive, and do be on the lookout for a passing osprey!! By the end of the month our first swallows and house martins may have arrived.

During April many trees will green up, and more cherry, magnolia and forsythia blossom will be there to enjoy in the village. We are very lucky to live in the countryside where nature is on our doorstep. Try not to ignore it, take advantage as it is good for the soul.



Dates for your Diary

All village events are suspended until further notice

Church Services



During the current crisis all church services across the Benefice are cancelled and the Benefice Newsletter is also suspended. Our rector, Revd Jenni Lane writes to say, "The church is still here and daily prayer continues behind public doors as do the needs of the world. If anyone would like specific prayers, help, or a listening ear, please call me on 01609 631122."

STOP PRESS - St Radegund's Church in Scruton is closed until further notice.

Support Local Business

It's important that we all do whatever we can to support local businesses for their survival through this crisis.

The Coore Arms can provide take-away food and home delivery. Spring House Farm is also doing take-away and food-for-collection. Whites Butcher is open and supplying, and the Egg Shed is open for collections. Malcom Barker sells potatoes (25kg bag for £7) and can deliver but there might be a slight delay when busy.

See their websites and check **Network Scruton** for the latest details.



Scruton Sky at Night

by Peter Williams

Venus continues to dominate the western sky throughout April and will be very close to the open cluster of the Pleiades from 1st to 5th of the month with the best view being on 2 April. Through binoculars this will be a fantastic sight with the many stars of the cluster, and you should be able to see that Venus is a crescent. It is interesting to know that the Pleiades is 400 light-years away, so we are seeing the cluster as it was in the year 1620*. Venus on the other hand is only 6 light-minutes away!



Pleiades open star cluster (also known as 'the Seven Sisters')

The third of our 'supermoons' will be visible on 8 April, which is the closest of the supermoons so far this year.

The Lyrids meteor shower should be visible on 22 & 23 April and is best viewed after midnight. Meteor numbers can be variable but approximately 15 to 20 per hour can be expected and they usually leave a long persistent trace.

On 26 April, Venus again makes a wonderful sight just above a thin crescent moon. Enjoy the spectacle!

* 1620: the year the Pilgrim Fathers left England in the Mayflower bound for America! - ed.

Coronavirus Caution - Stay alert for coronavirus scams by telephone, email and cold-callers.

From the Parish Council

Footpath along Station Road

The Parish Council have been notified that North Yorkshire County Council have rejected the request for a footpath from the A684 to the Scruton Station.

The Parish Council has offered to provide Hi-Viz vests to any one who needs to walk this road, particularly during the hours of darkness. Please contact the Clerk to request one.

Frank Burns

It is with great sadness that we learned recently about the death of Frank Burns, age 87. He was a long-time resident of Scruton until moving into sheltered accommodation in Bedale and then into care in York. Frank lived in Meadow Drive with his wife Barbara, and initially with their 3 children, Stephen, Sally and Rachel. He led the monthly Domino Drives in the Village Hall, which raised a significant amount of money. He was also one of the photographers who contributed to the Village Millennium Book. Frank was well known for his love of walking and his knowledge of historic sites, particularly regarding lead mining in Swaledale. For many years Frank was a governor at Romanby School. In Scruton, he was always ready to help with village events and, after moving away, remained interested in hearing about Scruton.

Finally, remember what it says in big friendly letters on the cover of the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy...



DON'T PANIC!

(especially not for shopping!)

Parish Council Meetings 2020

All Parish Council meetings are suspended until further notice.

Items for Scruton News?

Do you have any items of news, local interest, or ideas for an article or a regular column? Please email stephen.elmer@scruton.net

The deadline for the next edition is 23 April.

The editor reserves the right to make changes for editorial purposes.

Scruton Parish Council

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