

Scruton News

Scruton Parish Council

November 2021

www.scruton.net

Thankful Fireworks



The Thankful Firework Display is on **Saturday 13 November at Scruton Playing Field**. Hot drinks & novelties will be on sale from 6:15 pm and the firework display will be at 7.00 pm lasting for approximately 10 minutes.

We need volunteers to help with the stalls and bucket collections. Please contact Mark Gatenby (07715 421 588) or Greg Clapham (07957 730 282)

If you would like to make a donation, please use the QR Code above or search for the Just Giving web page for Scruton Playing Field Association.

All proceeds will be shared between St Radegund's Church Fabric Fund and the Firework Fund.



Farming News

by Malcolm Barker

By its very nature, November is a month of remembrance. As the days grow shorter we remember the summer now past, which was good in parts and better than the cold, dark spring.

My potatoes are harvested and, as expected, yields are about one third of those that I would normally anticipate. The good weather of the past few weeks has enabled a late silage crop to be taken and it provided almost perfect conditions for sowing winter cereals. Several years have past since I have seen the fields look this green as we slide into winter. Fodder beet is the only crop left to harvest by the contractor.

During my lifetime I have known many wonderful people in Scruton but I often think of those who lived and worked in the village in bygone times. The ditches were dug with primitive tools during the Saxon period and the rigs and furrows are the remnants of medieval farming; our hedges date back to the time of enclosures and the stone walls were built to provide work for villagers during the Great Depression of the 1920s.



Nature Notes

by Andy Johnston

Local beekeeper, John Wilson, tells me that his bees have produced a good crop of honey this year, despite the vagaries of the spring weather. His hives are near the Swale and his bees have access to a wide range of crops, field margins, mature woodland, wild areas and gardens. Tree flowers are a good source of food for bees, starting with early flowering willow, sycamore, fruit trees and finishing with lime in late summer. In addition, bees also work rape, beans and wild flowers including the important clover and dandelion. A major source of pollen and nectar is the invasive Himalayan Balsam, which is prolific along the banks of the Swale from July to October.



Phil Braithwaite (another local beekeeper and nurseryman) takes his hives to Masham Moor for heather honey, which he has done for decades. The ideal summer weather has produced an excellent crop this year.

Scruton Christmas Card

There is still time to order your Village Christmas cards or have your Greeting included in the card without purchasing cards. Call Joan Walker on 748458, or email keithandjoanwalker@gmail.com

Drama at Scruton Station!



On 30 Sept, three men who'd earlier abandoned a car full of stolen goods, burst onto Scruton Station (causing alarm to the costumed volunteers). They ran along the platform and down onto the track with policemen and dog handlers from six cars following in hot pursuit. One man escaped but the driver and two others were arrested. See full story at www.scruton.net



Scruton Sky at Night

by Peter Williams

The constellation of Orion (The Hunter) is a familiar sight during winter months and is a fine spectacle in the southern sky as it climbs up around midnight.



The top left corner of the constellation is marked by Betelgeuse, a red supergiant star nearing the end of its life. It is 429 light-years* away. The bottom right corner is marked by Rigel a blue supergiant 777 light-years distant. Orion is also well-known by the 3 stars which mark his belt and the 3 which make up his sword. The 'fuzzy' patch near the central star of the sword is the Orion nebula, the closest region of massive star formation to Earth. I say 'closest' but it is still over 1,300 light-years away!

There is a lunar eclipse at 7 am on 19 November. Its early stages can be seen low in the western sky before the Moon disappears below the horizon.

* A light-year is a measure of distance (not time). It is how far light travels in one year, almost 6 million million miles!!! Incidentally, the moon is 1.3 light-seconds from earth.

Reasons to be Cheerful

by Janet Crampton


I dropped a pair of shoes at Timpsons to be mended. 'They will take 2 or 3 hours to fix' he said. 'That's OK,' I replied, 'I'm off to do my shift at the Vaccination Centre'. Later, back at Timpsons, the man wouldn't accept any payment. 'You're giving your time to fix things to keep people safe, the least I can do is fix your shoes' he said. It was only a few pounds' worth of goodwill but a very thoughtful gesture, which gave me a warm glow all the way home!



Have you experienced an unexpected kind act from a stranger or have other reasons to be cheerful? Let me know and we could make this a regular feature. - Ed

All services commence at 9:30 am except where stated. Rev'd Jenni Lane can be contacted at the Rectory on 01609 631 122.

7 Nov Holy Communion Jenni

14 Nov Remembrance Service
 **10:45 am on Village Green**
William Thackray

21 Nov Holy Communion Jenni

28 Nov Holy Communion Jenni & Paul

5 Dec Morning Worship Paul



S.L.E.D

Scruton Ladies Evening Do resumes on **Wednesday 17 November at the Coore Arms, 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.** Christmas Meal with Vegetarian option £10. To book a place email Bozz at rosalynleach8@gmail.com or tel 01609 748 357. Last date to book a place is Friday 12th November.



Coffee Mornings

Please support our next Coffee Morning from **10 am - 12 in the Village Hall on Saturday 20th November.** We hope to have a Stocking Filler Stall as well as a Raffle and a Cake Stall. Donations to any of the above will be most welcome. For further information or to offer help, please contact Jacqueline Mainwaring-Taylor on 01609 748 617.



Kirkby Fleetham Women's Institute

Everyone is welcome to the next meeting on **11 November, 7:15pm at Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall.** Our AGM includes a display of members' items made during the lockdown.

For further information please contact Carol Barron on 01609 748 315 or email: carolinesboxes@gmail.com

Safari Supper Success!



Organiser Karen Long thanks everyone who took part in October's Safari Supper, which raised £410 for Cancer Research and Motor Neurone Disease Charities. 'It was a great evening,' said Karen 'and good to see so many new villagers taking part.'



Letters to the Editor

George Ewart writes, 'Whilst the need for a safe pedestrian access from Scruton Station to the A684 has long been recognized, it is amazing that SPC should propose to spend £20k of other people's money on a footpath when, in spite of repeated requests for appropriate maintenance, the snickets between Common Lane, Beech Close and Station Road remain a disgrace. Would it not be better to spend money looking after what we already have?'

SPC replies – Thank you George for raising this issue. Please see the item about snickets in the next column.

Hot Drink Heroes Needed!



The buffet car at Leeming Bar station provides a warm seating area for staff and volunteers working on the Polar Express. The railway needs volunteers to serve hot drinks from the car. If you can help please call 01677 425805.

From the Parish Council

Thank you - to Graham Dodds, Gordon McQuillen and Trevor Howe for planting crocus bulbs on the Village Green and at Pittfields Corner. Thanks also to Kevin Procter for clearing leaves on the Village Green.

Trees - Scruton Parish Council own and maintain nearly 100 trees. A tree was removed from the village green recently and 3 more dead trees need to be felled. The initiative to plant a tree to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee gives us the opportunity to replace one of these and we would welcome suggestions for location and species of tree.

Village Snickets - There is a long standing question of who is responsible for maintaining the snickets. No one responded to our plea for volunteers to tidy them and if SPC are to accept responsibility for them it will incur additional expense that has not been budgeted for. An estimate of the cost should be available for the next SPC meeting when the question of the snickets will be discussed. If you have any suggestions for the upkeep of the snickets, please come to the meeting or let SPC know beforehand, so that we can come to an informed decision.

Station Road Footpath - SPC have had a productive and helpful meeting with the Highways Agency and Cllr. Annabel Wilkinson about the proposed footpath from Scruton Station to the A684. Whilst there is sympathy about the hazards of walking along this busy road, achieving our ambition will not be straightforward. To help us progress the matter further, it would be useful to know how many pedestrians & children regularly walk along that section of Station Road (or would do so if there was a safe footpath)?

Deadline for the next edition is 23 Nov.

Email: stephen.elmer@scruton.net

(The editor reserves the right to make changes for editorial purposes)

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Parish Council Meetings 2021/22

Subject to Covid restrictions, meetings are normally held on the second Thursday of alternate months at the Coore Memorial Hall, starting at 7:30 pm with a 10 minute open forum for the public who are welcome to attend.

2021

11 November

2022

13 January

10 March

14 April (Annual Parish Meeting)

12 May (AGM)



Website: www.scruton.net



Twitter: [@ScrutonVillage](https://twitter.com/ScrutonVillage)



Email: stephen.elmer@scruton.net



Facebook: [Scruton Community Page](https://www.facebook.com/ScrutonCommunityPage)