

Scruton News

Scruton Parish Council

September 2021



www.scruton.net

Village Picnic on the Playing Field at 4 pm on Saturday 4 September



Bring your own Picnic, everyone is Welcome!

Tombola – Contact Janet Crampton (01609 748 321) or you can leave prizes at the Old Rectory.

Cake Stall – Contact Jenny McGuckin (01609 748 454). Please bring cakes and other produce to the picnic from 1 pm on the day.*

Scruton Allotments – Fresh home grown harvest produce. Donations of any other produce are welcome from 1pm on the day.*

* Please attach a list of ingredients for any homemade produce.

Potato Challenge Big Weigh in Children's games

Thankful Ale – On sale from the Village Hall car park.

Grand Raffle – An amazing selection of wonderful prizes! Contact John Mainwaring-Taylor (01609 748 617) to donate prizes or buy tickets (books of five at £1 per ticket).

Car Parking – Scruton Cricket Club car park available on 4 Sept. for the picnic.

All Proceeds will be shared between St Radegund's Church and Scruton Playing Field Association.



Scruton Allotments

Potato Weigh-In for the annual potato growing competition will be held at the Village Picnic this year. The potatoes are grown from a single tuber in a bag over a period of 6 months. The potato (a variety chosen by Chris Snell) is grown in a common sized bag using whatever growing media/fertiliser the entrant wishes. This is the second year the competition has been open to all villagers and we are hoping for plenty of entries.

Village Picnic - Scruton Allotments are organising a Homegrown Produce stall at the Village Picnic. We would like to include produce from around the village as well as from the allotments so if you have any spare vegetables, eggs, or plants please bring them to the picnic (on the Playing Field) from 1 pm on Saturday 4 September.

Nature Notes

by Andy Johnston



The third weekend in August (21st & 22nd) saw the first significant rainfall for several weeks. Before this rain, the north-westerly airstream brought many swallows and house martins to Scruton which appears to be a refuelling station on their migration to Africa. On several mornings, flocks of approximately a hundred martins were furiously feeding over the village and particularly around a large sycamore tree which produces masses of small insects. In between bouts of feeding, the martins rested on Margaret Ward's pantiled roof before taking off in one flock heading south. The swifts, which appear to have bred well this year, left on 10 August, since when most of our village swallows and martins have also departed.

Farming News

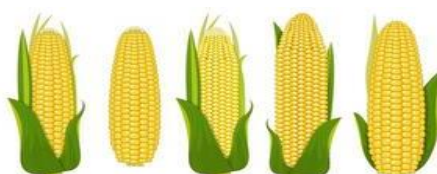
by Malcolm Barker



Summer always seems to slip away during August. The long summer evenings are suddenly missed by the end of the month as the Sun is setting by 8 pm and suddenly we realise that autumn is here. Autumn, by the way came from the French language, and our old English word for the season was the 'fall' because it signified 'the fall of the leaf' as opposed to 'the springing of the leaf' earlier in the year. Who knew that the Americans had the correct word all the time!

As I write, the cereal harvest is progressing well, now that we are in a settled spell of weather, although yields will be lower this year due to the cold spring and darker than average summer.

The potato crop is dying back earlier than normal this year but this might be the effect of drought, because the potato tops have died fastest on the sandiest land. As the top of each plant dies it allows the nutrients from the leaves to return back down into the tubers and this helps to swell each tuber but I have been told that this process also helps add flavour to them.



Scruton Sky at Night

by Peter Williams

Skies are gradually getting darker, and a New Moon on 7 September means there will be a better opportunity to view the sky since there will be no moonlight to interfere. On 14 September, when the planet Mercury appears at its farthest from the Sun, will be the best time to catch a glimpse of this often elusive planet. Look low in the western sky just after sunset. On 20 September there will be a Full Moon, which is often referred to as the Harvest Moon.

The Autumn Equinox occurs on 22 September which is when the Sun is directly above the Equator, and all parts of Earth experience equal day and night. For us in the Northern Hemisphere, days will gradually get shorter after the Autumn Equinox.



Finally, how about this photo taken on 14 August. It looks just like a hot day in the Sahara possibly, but it's on Mars!



Peacock

Gatekeeper

Prior to the last couple of weeks, this summer has not been good for butterflies but recently, as well as tortoiseshell, peacock and red admiral, I have had gatekeeper, wall, and comma in the garden not to mention many large whites!

All services commence at 9:30 pm.
Hand sanitising is required, face masks and social distancing are your choice.

5 Sep	Holy Communion	William
12 Sep	Holy Communion	Jenni
19 Sep	Harvest Morning Worship	Paul
26 Sep	Holy Communion	Jenni
3 Oct	Morning Worship	Paul
10 Oct	Holy Communion	Jenni

Scruton Christmas Card

St Radegund's Church Council will organise the 2021 Village Christmas Card in the same way as last year. An envelope containing a flyer with all the details will be distributed to every household with the October Newsletter. The flyer will include a space to write your Christmas greeting and an order form should you wish to purchase any packs of the Christmas Cards.



For those new to Scruton, the Village Christmas Card is produced annually. In return for a donation, all residents are invited to write a signed Christmas greeting to the village. This is scanned and added to signature sheets which are distributed to every household along with the Christmas Card.

The WI extends a warm welcome to members and friends to our meeting on 9 September, beginning at 7:15 pm at Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall. Joy Kerin (who is one of our members) will be demonstrating how to make Fruit Gins; tasters and recipes will be available. Please come and join us, we will finish our evening with a pooled supper. For further information please contact Carol Barron on 01609 748 315 or email: carolinesboxes@gmail.com

Harry Fawcett

It is with great sadness that the family of Harry Fawcett announce that he died on Saturday 28th August. A long time resident of Wyndhams Place, Harry moved to Scruton with his family in 1953. Villagers may remember him out walking his little Jack Russel, or chatting to passers-by across his garden wall. Always bright and with a wry sense of humour, Harry will be sadly missed by all who knew him. The family have asked for a little space as they come to terms with their loss, and we send our sincere condolences.



Letters to the Editor

Graham Dodds has written to say that the British Beekeepers Association is urging the public to be aware of a non native species threat to our insect pollinators and in particular to our 'wild' and managed honey bees. Go to www.bbka.org.uk and click on 'Asian Hornet' for more information.

Margaret Porter writes that the Bowls Club has been run in Kirkby Fleetham since the 1960's. Carpet bowls are £2 per session, every Thursday from 2 - 4 pm. New members are needed, contact Brian Armstrong 01609 778 515.

Ham Hall Lane - The blockage in the drain pipe from Ham Hall Lane has been identified and a contractor engaged to lay a new section of pipe around the tennis court to the new drainage outlet in the cricket club car park. It is hoped that the work will be completed during September and will alleviate the flooding problems of the last few years in Ham Hall Lane. In the meantime, those using the allotments or tennis court must circumnavigate the workings and gain access via the rear of the tennis court.

Bulb Planting – Further to the donations of bulbs for the village green (ref. last month's newsletter), there has been a suggestion that perhaps we should also look to plant bulbs on the roadside grass verge by Pittfields, the Parish Council would appreciate some feedback on this initiative.

Solar Farm - Due to the differences between the DEFRA Land Classification & Lightrock's soil analysis, Hambleton District Council Planning Department have commissioned an independent soil survey. This has delayed the Planning process, but the Parish Council will provide an update as and when we are advised that the process has resumed.

Richard O'Neil - Some of you may have heard that Louise and Richard O'Neil have left Scruton for pastures new. Richard was a long standing Parish Councillor and Scruton Parish Council are grateful for this opportunity to pay tribute to him for all his hard work. We wish them both every happiness in their new home.

Deadline for the next edition is 23 Sept.

Email: stephen.elmer@scruton.net

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

Scruton Parish Council

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Cllr. Annabel Wilkinson cldr.annabel.wilkinson@northyorks.gov.uk

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

09 September

11 November

2022

13 January

10 March

14 April (Annual Parish Meeting)

12 May (AGM)