Scruton News





www.scruton.net

December 2022



Advent Displays

Look out in Scruton windows & gardens for 24 days of Advent. Displays should be up by the first weekend in December:

2 and 4 Wainscoat Place 2nd

Mallards

3rd Hawthorn Cottage, Silver Street 4th

Greenways, Station Road

5th 5 Meadow Drive 6th

6 Peacocks Close

7th The Starlings, Station Road

8th 8 Beech Close

9th 8 Meadow Court

10th The Lodge, Common Lane

11th 2 Meadow Drive

12th 2a The Parklands

13th Fairlea, Station Road

14th Old Rectory, Common Lane

15th Wyville, Station Road

4 The Parklands 16th

17th 3 Meadow Drive

18th

Manzelema, Station Road

19th 18 The Parklands

20th 20 The Parklands

21st Forge Cottage, Station Road

22nd 2 Beech Close

23rd 4 Meadow Drive

24 The Parklands



Gardeners' World

by Elizabeth Davies

Slight frosts have turned dahlia foliage black and it is time to cut them down. You can store them for the winter but turn them upside down to drain water out of the stems. When dry, store them upside down in boxes in a frost free place, covered with a little old compost. As winters are becoming milder, dahlias can be left in the ground with a covering of mulch. I have done this for the last few years and this winter I'm putting sheep's wool round some as an experiment.

There has been much late autumn colour as some plants revived after the rain and flowered again. However it is time to cut down and tidy the borders. I leave any interesting seed heads until next year. Clear thick coverings of leaves as slugs use them as duvets and eat new shoots!

Clean used pots and seed trays ready for next year. During the bad weather look through garden magazines and seed catalogues to plan your garden for next year - something to look forward to!

Ed - Elizabeth will be taking a winter break. Gardener's World will be back in the spring. We wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year



Nature Notes

by Andy Johnston

The Twelve Days of Christmas is an old English Carol* featuring mainly animals. A partridge is an English or grey partridge. Turtle doves are now rare but occasionally seen locally. French hens are thought to be Breton hens. Calling birds (or 'colly' in early versions) meant blackbirds. Gold rings were thought to represent ringed pheasants, or 'gold spinks', an old name for goldfinches. Geese, farmyard variety originating from greylag geese. Swans a-swimming were probably mute swans. Lords a-leaping in some versions were hares running, typical hare behaviour in the breeding season. The carol was written when the population was predominately rural and more familiar with country living.

An 18th century cumulative carol – Ed.



Sue Harpley was watching sparrows on her lawn when a sparrow hawk attacked and pursued the flock into her privet hedge. After a commotion, it emerged with a kill. Sparrow hawks are very much ambush predators - enough said!

Sociable Warm Space

Volunteers from St. Radegund's Church have agreed with the Coore Memorial Hall to hold open times this winter when Scruton residents can socialise in the village hall. A trial day will be held on Tuesday 6 December, when the Post Office Van will also be in Scruton.

The village hall will be open from 10 am to 3.30 pm for residents to meet. Tea and coffee will be available. This scheme depends on there being sufficient demand so please come on 6th Dec. and talk to the volunteers so that a programme of openings can be set up.



St Nicholas Night 5 pm, Tuesday 6 December

at St Radegund's Church

Join us to celebrate St Nicholas Night. Children attending should bring a shoe (with their name on) to leave at the rear of the Church. If St Nicholas thinks they have been good, who knows what will be found in them. Mulled wine and mince pies to follow.

Village Christmas Card

The deadline for returning your village greeting/signature sheets to Joan Walker (24 The Parklands) is Thurs 8 Dec. Cards are still available for sale or if you need a replacement signature sheet/flyer contact Joan on 01609 748458 or email keithandioanwalker@gmail.com



Farming News

by Malcolm Barker

I can take things a little easier this month. Apart from bagging and selling potatoes, I can catch up with jobs around the farm. Potato picking finished a fortnight ago before the heavy rain. I couldn't pick the final couple of acres until the potato shed was emptied of the wheat, which wasn't sold until early November. Fodder beet was also harvested in mid November but the yield was variable. Trees around the field robbed the crop of water throughout the summer and autumn, resulting in a good yield in the centre of the field but no worthwhile beet around the perimeter.

For the second time this year my farm has fallen within a tuberculosis zone. One of my fields is in the 3 km zone by about 20 metres, so now I must pay for the vet to test that my cattle are TB free before they can be legally sold. For years I have tried to keep a closed herd, where I only buy in replacements from farms that I know to be disease free. Now I have to pay extra vet bills because someone nearby has imported cheap cattle into this area.

Situations Vacant

Ferryman Wanted – Part time post available in Scruton at the corner of Silver St. Must have own canoe!

Quiz: Can you name the Christmas Songs represented by these emojis? (Answers on back page. Thanks to Paul Harrison)



















Printing by ReZolve - www.rezolve.co.uk



Services at St Radegund's

All services at St Radegund's are on Sunday at 9:30 am except where stated.

4 Dec Holy Communion

11 Dec Nine Lessons & Carols at 4 pm **18 Dec** Carols on the Green at 3:30 pm

24 Dec Midnight Holy Communion at Ainderby Steeple at 11:30 pm

25 Dec Benefice Family Service and Holy Communion at 10:30 am

In Marning Warahin

1 Jan Morning Worship

Family Carols on the Green –

Scruton Village Green at **3:30 pm** on **Sunday 18 Dec.** followed by mulled wine and mince pies at the lych gate.

From the Rectory - The Christmas hype has started. I doubt many people look to the weeks before Christmas with the word 'quiet' in mind. However Advent, the lead up to Christmas, is a time of preparation and reflection where once again we can experience God's love afresh in the celebration of Jesus' birth. Not got time for that? Yes you have - for 10 minutes each day in December think of 3 things you're grateful for. Be still, say thank you for the good things in life. Take a deep breath and march out into tinsel and noise. Wishing you a blessed and happy Christmas.

Christmas Foodshare - This year's appeal is from 2 to 11 Dec. Details to follow on *Network Scruton*. Please leave contributions in the front porch of the Mainwaring-Taylor's house on the Green or call John on 748 617 for collection.



Charity Coffee Mornings

Thank you to everyone who has supported our fund raising efforts this year. The next Coffee Morning will be on **Sat 21 Jan**. We hope to see you there. Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year from the Coffee Morning Team.



Kirkby Fleetham Women's Institute

The next meeting on 8 December will be a Christmas Dinner for members. For details call Carol Barron on 01609 748 315 or email carolinesboxes@gmail.com



Sunday Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club will be **Sunday 18 December** at the Coore Arms. Please contact Alyson Tonge by 15 December if you wish to take part, Tel 01609 748227 or email alysontonge@gmail.com



Screen Scruton

7:30 pm on 14 December at Scruton Village Hall



Follow a group of children evacuated to a Yorkshire village during WWII, where they encounter a young soldier who, like them, is far away from home.

Doors Open 7 pm, café style seating and bring your own drinks & nibbles. No Admission Charge, but donations are invited towards Village Hall funds. Email Stephen Elmer if you wish to attend: stephen.elmer@scruton.net



Letters to the Editor

Calling All Petrol Heads - Alan Harpley has written to suggest a monthly gettogether of men/women keen on motors. Any type/age of vehicle, or even no vehicle at all! If you are interested call Alan on 01609 748712.

Thank You Slots

Thank you to everyone who generously supported village events in November:

Thankful Fireworks on 12 Nov' which raised money for SPFA/firework fund.

Coffee Morning on 19 Nov' which raised £309 for the Macular Society.

Quiz Night on 25 Nov' which raised £555 for the Church Fabric Fund.

Christmas Mini Market where the Tombola & Refreshments raised £450 for Barnardo's.



Scruton Book Club

The next Book Club meeting will be in January 2023. For information call or text Janet Crampton on 07540 503030

From the Parish Council

By Cllr. Syd Nye (Chairman)

We thank Kevin Procter for leaf clearing on the Village Green and Trevor Howe for planting bulbs, donated by Kirkby Fleetham WI, on Pittfields Corner. We look forward to their display in spring.

The issue of flooding at the corner of Silver Street and at the bottom of Common Lane has been raised with the Highways Agency who are investigating the blockage at Silver Street and confirm that it is not beneath the road. However, they are not convinced there is an issue with flooding in Common Lane, but we will send photos the next time it floods.

We are exploring the possibility of naming the approach to the church after Queen Elizabeth II. Please keep sending us your suggestions for a memorial.

We have been asked to arrange a meeting between walking groups and local landowners where walkers can express their thanks and all parties can raise concerns in a constructive and friendly manner. If you would like to take part, please let SPC know.

Scruton Parish Council

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Scruton News is published by Scruton Parish Council and edited by Stephen Elmer. Some views may not be those of the Parish Council. The editor reserves the right to make changes for editorial purposes.

Parish Council Meetings 2023

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

12 January 2023 9 March 2023

13 April 2023 (Annual Parish Meeting) 11 May 2023 (Parish Council AGM)

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Facebook: Scruton Community Page