

Scruton News

Scruton Parish Council

May 2022



Village Hall Needs You Now!

The Coore Memorial Hall Management Committee urgently requires 2 people to step forward to fill vacancies for **Treasurer** and **Bookings Secretary**.

If this is of any interest to you, or if you would just like to know more about what is involved, please contact John Mainwaring-Taylor (Chairman) on 01609 748 617.



Nature Notes

by Andy Johnston

Similar to last year, April's weather has been dominated by a cool northerly airstream, but without the devastating frosts. Consequently cherry and magnolia blossom, daffodils and tulips have been good and long lasting. Our first swallows arrived on the 13 April, closely followed by the odd house martin, blackcap and most unusually, a number of willow warblers which do not nest here but, after feeding for a few days, continue north. At the moment a pair of nuthatches are nesting in a hole in a plane tree on the village green. It is situated to the left of the notice board about twelve feet from the ground. The hole was originally about five inches in diameter but the birds have reduced it to roughly one and a half inches by blocking the entrance with mud, so only they can squeeze in.

Occasionally, unusual natural visitors are seen in the village. Peter Williams reminded me of the time he had complained of a heron taking his fish, then Caroline Byrne told him she had recently seen an otter go through his gate! More recently Stephen Elmer saw a young roe deer buck on the green near his garden gate.



At night foxes and hedgehogs are out and about in the village. Recent sightings include five little egrets, a kingfisher's nest and an osprey all near the island at the Swale. Look out for swifts and cuckoos. One cuckoo is already back in Scotland.

Historic RAF Aerial Photograph of Scruton from 1951



Whilst browsing the Internet recently, Joan Walker came across the above picture, taken by the RAF on 29 July 1951 (sortie 540/567, flown over Northallerton). It's one of over 400,000 historic aerial photographs that have been digitised and uploaded to Historic England's website. The photo shows Scruton prior to the developments at Meadow Drive, Meadow Court and The Parklands. Also visible is the now demolished Scruton Hall with its walled gardens surrounded by many trees.

Go to www.historicengland.org.uk and look for 'Historic England From the Air' to explore this and many more aerial photographs taken from a collection of over six million pictures of England preserved in the Historic England archive! You can also learn more about the history of Aerofilms Ltd., which began its life in the aftermath of WWI (the first ever aerial photo by Aerofilms was taken on 26 July 1919).



Farming News

by Malcolm Barker

A month ago, I had the feeling that I was starting to catch up with my work. The sun was shining and the land was drying out after winter. My greatest concern was the cattle movement restrictions brought on by bovine tuberculosis in a herd about two miles away; one of my arable fields fell into the restricted zone. Then on 6 April we tested positive for Covid, but because animals have to be fed, farm work still had to be done. Easter Sunday was the first day we could safely go out after 2 negative tests so we went for a coffee in the Dales. At this point I started to feel unwell. My lungs were on fire and I was certain that Covid had returned to bite me.

I drove home slowly and rested a couple of times before I finally got back. After calling 111 the medic asked "Did I have any Aspirin" and told me to crunch one up with my teeth and put it under my tongue. He suspected I was having a heart attack. The ambulance arrived almost immediately. I was taken to Darlington and after an hour in a corridor I was rushed to Cardiology and then 'blue lighted' to Middlesbrough. By 1 am on Monday morning I was in Theatre talking to the surgeon while he fitted a stent inside one of my main arteries. 20 minutes later I was heading for the recovery ward and home by Tuesday.

We wish Malcolm a speedy recovery.

All services are on Sunday at 9:30 am except where stated.

- 1 May** No service at Scruton *
- 8 May** Morning Worship
- 15 May** Holy Communion
- 22 May** No Service at Scruton *
- 26 May** Evensong (Thurs at 7:00 pm)
- 29 May** Holy Communion
- 3 Jun** Jubilee Thanksgiving on the village green, time TBC
- 5 Jun** No service in Scruton *

* Holy Communion in Kirkby Fleetham at 11 am



Charity Coffee Mornings

Our next Coffee Morning, in aid of the Charity Fund, is on **Saturday 14 May 10am – 12 in the Village Hall** (NB this is a week earlier than usual).

We would be grateful for raffle prizes and items for the cake stall. For further details, or to help on the day, please call Jacqueline on 01609 748 617.



S.L.E.D.

The next **Scruton Ladies Evening Do** will be on **25 May at the Coore Arms, 7 pm for 7.30**. Buffet supper with a vegetarian option, £10 per person. For catering purposes, you must register in advance. Please call/text Susan on 07776 145 529 or email susan@susanrogers.me.uk



Kirkby Fleetham Women's Institute

Join us at our next meeting to learn about 'Treasures of the River Wear', a talk by underwater archaeologist Gary Bankhead from Durham University. All are welcome on **Thurs 12 May 7:15 pm at Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall**. For details call Carol on 01609 748 315 or email carolinesboxes@gmail.com



Scruton Book Club

The next Scruton Book Club meeting will be on **Tuesday 31 May at 2:30 pm**. For more details call or text Janet Crampton on 07540 503 030.



Letters to the Editor

Margaret Gough writes to ask, 'does anyone has any spare paving slabs available? I have a small space at the back of the garden where I want to create a seating area using different size slabs and stones.' If you can help please call Margaret on 01609 748 738.

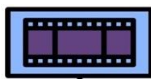
Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday Weekend

Beacon Lighting Party - On Thurs. **2 June** (Spring Bank Holiday) there will be an evening Jubilee Party on the playing field with music, drinks, hot food, Beacon Lighting and Fireworks!

Thanksgiving Service – On Friday morning **3 June** (Jubilee Bank Holiday) there will be a 'Songs of Praise' style service on the Village Green in thanks for the Queen's reign of 70 years.

Big Jubilee Village Picnic - The weekend events culminate on **Sun. 5 June** with a Village Picnic Lunch on the playing field with a grand raffle, tombola and cake/produce stall. Also sweets/ice cream and various children's activities.

Decorate Scruton – Let's make our village colourful for the Jubilee! Start planning how to decorate your houses, gardens and streets with red, white and blue bunting, flags & flowers. Let's make it fun for the children!



Screen Scruton 11 May 7:30 pm At Scruton Village Hall

DUNE - A noble family is embroiled in war for control over the galaxy's most valuable asset, while its heir becomes troubled by visions of a dark future.



Doors Open 7 pm, café style seating and bring your own drinks & nibbles. There is no Admission Charge, but donations are invited towards Village Hall funds. Please contact Stephen Elmer if you know you will attend, stephen.elmer@scruton.net



Wensleydale Railway

The May Bank Holiday weekend will a busy time on the railway.

Model Railway Show – at Leeming Bar station, 30 April to 2 May, £5 entry.

Grand Opening – of Leeming Bar Station House on Mon 2 May, 10:30am to 4:30pm. Trains will bring VIPs and guests to Scruton where there will be a display of Birds of Prey (not flying) all weekend with a Coconut Shy and visiting Jazz Musicians on Monday.

From the Parish Council By Cllr. Syd Nye (Chairman)

New Council - Four current Councillors were returned unopposed to the Parish Council, there is therefore a vacancy for a Councillor. We can co-opt a new member, so if you fancy serving as a Parish Councillor please let the Clerk know in writing.

Solar Farm - ECAP Renewables cancelled the scheduled meeting with the PC about their proposed solar installation along the north side of Fence Dyke Lane at short notice because of connection issues; we are not sure if they will proceed with their plans. To date we have no further information on the progress of Lightrock's planning application. We have been informed that there is another planning application for a two hundred acre solar farm to the west of the A1 at Holtby/Langthorne.

Platinum Jubilee - Residents who would like a free jubilee mug (as advertised last month and on Network Scruton) for any young person in their household of 16 or under, should contact the Parish Clerk. A number of residents have expressed interest in buying a mug, the price is £6.

The Parish Council have agreed to pay for the fireworks at the Jubilee Beacon Lighting Party from the Community Fund. We hope everyone in the village will enjoy all the activities proposed to celebrate Her Majesty, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. To date there have been no expressions of interest in planting a Jubilee tree so we will not be pursuing this initiative.

Theft at Scruton Station

It's sad to report that thieves have stolen a genuine original 1920s metal 'Brooke Bond Tea' sign from the back of Scruton Station.



If you saw anything suspicious between Sat 23rd and Tue 26th April, or come across anything like this for sale please call Joan Walker on 01609 748 458.

Deadline for the next edition is 23 May
Email: stephen.elmer@scruton.net
(The editor reserves the right to make changes for editorial purposes)

Scruton Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

Annual Parish Meeting, 14 April 2022



Chairman's Annual Report

The restructuring of Local Government has meant the current Parish Councillors are required to stand for re-election, we have served three years to date, the next Parish Council will serve for five years thereafter the term in office will revert to four years.

The main event of the year was our objection to the Solar planning application from Lightrock. We canvassed the villagers and received 68% against the scheme, following our initial letter of objection we have submitted a further three addendum's in objection to the planning application. At present we are unaware of the status of the planning application; we have asked but have not been told what the hold-up is, as far as we know the application is still pending.

We provided a new salt bin for the Pittfields area and topped up all the other salt bins, fortunately it has been a mild winter so far and very little salt was used.

The snicketts were top dressed with sharp sand to make them more user friendly, we are currently liaising with NYCC footpaths to establish who has responsibility for maintaining them. Councillor Howe and Gordon McQuillian have planted some bulbs and flowers along the edge and tidied them up. We have also requested NYCC footpaths to address issues on the other village footpaths.

The large willow tree had to be cut down due to disease and two smaller hawthorn trees which died were felled, the remaining trees owned by SPC appear to be healthy. We can apply for a new tree to

be planted as part of the national tree planting scheme to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, we asked if the village wanted to take part but to date have received no support for this.

We were asked to explore the possibility of creating a footpath from Scruton Station to the A684, we undertook a feasibility study and sought support from the village but only eight residents responded supporting the initiative. Given the projected cost involved the idea has been put on hold, if we get given a lot of money it can be revisited.

The flooding issue in Ham Hall Lane has been resolved by a new drainage pipeline being laid from the Cricket Ground around the Tennis Court into the drainage beck.

We have implemented a Business Continuity Plan to our structure and are currently copying all our paper files for electric storage on the website.

We are looking to support a number of village functions to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty, the Queen, which will include a Jubilee mug for each child under 16 in the village.

I'd like to thank the Parish Clerk and my fellow Councillors for all the help and support during my time in the Chair. Hopefully the coming year will be better than last year and we can get back to a degree of normality following the Covid epidemic.

Syd Nye

14 April 2022

Scruton Parish Council

Chris Barron (Clerk)	01609 748315	ronald.barron@btinternet.com
Simon Britton	07866 721146	sbconfidential@georgefwhite.co.uk
Trevor Howe	01609 748355	tdhscruton@gmail.com
Syd Nye (Chair)	01609 748464	syd@nyeref.co.uk
John Thompson	01609 748067	jonnyjig@hotmail.com
Mike Widmer	01609 748392	mswstonemole@gmail.com

Hambleton District Councillor

Cllr. Brian Phillips cldr.brian.phillips@hambleton.gov.uk

North Yorkshire County Councillor

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

Parish Council Meetings 2022

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.

5 May 2022 Local Elections (incl. Parish if contested)
12 May 2022 (AGM)

 Website: www.scruton.net  Email : stephen.elmer@scruton.net
 Twitter: [@ScrutonVillage](https://twitter.com/ScrutonVillage)  Facebook: [Scruton Community Page](#)