

# Sheriff Hutton Village News



Number 618

April 2021

## Parish Council

The Parish Council met online via Zoom on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Councillors present at the online meeting were Penny Bean (Chairman), Marcus Oxendale, Martin Dodd, Elaine Nelson, Sally Wright, Dave Smith and Sam Warriner. Louise Pink – Clerk. Cllr. Caroline Goodrick (part meeting only).

### The following new planning applications were received for consideration:-

21/00184/CAT                      Church Of St Helen And The Holy Cross, East End, Sheriff Hutton  
Fell cherry trees in church yard currently causing damage to the boundary wall.  
Decision – No Objection.

21/00371/HOUSE                      1 Cornborough Road Sheriff Hutton  
Erection of part side- part rear extension with installation of woodburning flue following removal of existing garage, and erection of a porch to the front.  
Decision – No Objection.

### The following new planning decision was received:-

20/01185/HOUSE                      Casa Mia, Sheriff Hutton  
Erection of single storey side extension together with conversion of garage into additional living accommodation.  
APPROVED.

## Not Parking on Footpaths and Verges

Residents are requested not to park on footpaths and the grass verges throughout the village. Parking vehicles on the footpath causes an obstruction, often meaning that pedestrians have to walk into the road to pass. This is particularly dangerous for children, people with pushchairs, people with mobility scooters and the elderly. Parking on the grass verges, especially during the recent wet weather causes a great deal of damage to the verge.

## Sheriff Hutton Park Road

The Parish Council would like to remind residents that the Park Road is foot access only and is not a bridleway. Therefore, the exercising of horses and ponies on this road is strictly prohibited.

## Recycling Tubs

The Parish Council would like to politely request that on windy evenings residents either, wait until the morning to put out recycling tubs or obtain nets from Ryedale District Streetscene, free of charge to cover the top of the tubs to stop items from blowing out of the tubs and littering the streets.

## Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Zoom.  
Louise Pink, the Parish Clerk, can be contacted regarding all Parish Council matters at [sheriffhuttonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sheriffhuttonparishcouncil@gmail.com) or on (01904) 861131. 13 White Rose Avenue, New Earswick, York, YO32 4AG.

## Kirsty Noble

Some of you may have noticed 14 year old Kirsty Noble walking laps of the village after school over the past few weeks. As part of her Duke of Edinburgh bronze award she has decided to take part in 'Step into Spring', to raise money for Marie Curie. She has committed to walking over 10,000 steps every day throughout March. This is around six miles of walking each day in all weather. If anyone would like to sponsor her to raise money for the fabulous Marie Curie end of life nurses, her online just giving page can be found here - <https://tinyurl.com/brumu64f>

Thank you

## Birdwatch

Thank you to everyone who kindly reported the wild bird activity in their gardens. The most popular species seem to be:

Blackbird	Greenfinch	Dunnock	Jackdaw
Robin	Coal Tit	Wren	Crows
Blue Tit	Long Tailed Tit	Thrush	Mistle Thrush
Great Tit	Pigeon	Fieldfare	Buzzard
Goldfinch	House Sparrow	Sparrowhawk	
Chaffinch	Collared Dove	Starling	

One very lucky spotter noticed a visit from a Treecreeper and a Great Spotted Woodpecker. So, as you receive this newsletter, April will be just around the corner. The birds will have been nesting since February so please now refrain from feeding peanuts as these can choke the young which will start to hatch shortly. Do feed plenty of mealworms and sunflower seeds. Also some soaked sultanas, raisins and currants will also go down well.

What to do this month:

- leave plenty of natural fibres and plant materials for birds to nest with. Prunings, straw, grasses, moss and wool. \*\*Pet hair can be contaminated with chemicals from flea treatments, shampoos etc. so please do not leave this outside.
- muddy and wet areas benefit House Martins, Thrushes and Blackbirds which use mud to build their nests
- continue to wash bird feeders
- check hedges for nests before using machinery

This month do let us know if you've got birds nesting in your garden. Which species and what type of nestbox they are using if not the hedges.

[enquiries@everythingbutthepet.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@everythingbutthepet.co.uk)

Many thanks indeed, Louise

## Dennis Warriner

Christine, Sam and George would like to send thanks to all the friends and neighbours for their lovely cards, best wishes and donations following the loss of Dennis Warriner. York Against Cancer will be warmly receiving the donations. It was lovely to see so many people around the village and gather at The Highwayman from where he will be fondly remembered. Had Covid-19 restrictions not been in place, we would have hoped for a very different celebration of his life, but nevertheless we were able to offer him a fitting tribute.

## Friends of Sheriff Hutton Village Hall 200 Club

March £25 prize winning numbers were 13, 15, 77, 81 and 130.

## **Farlington ~ Thank You**

Thank you to all the people of Farlington for their donation towards the running costs of Village News. Your kindness and generosity is much appreciated.  
The Editors

## **UCCC Village Auction**

We have tentatively booked a Village Auction for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021.  
Please keep this date in your diary and we'll confirm arrangements closer to the date.

## **Sheriff Hutton Bridge Cricket Club**

We are all looking forward to the new season which we hope will be substantially Covid -free. It is expected however that many of the restrictions we had last year will probably prevail this year, and for all the right reasons.

The main point this year is that we hope to be playing full games of cricket as opposed to the truncated version we had last year, which although enjoyable we felt that we were a bit shortchanged by the prevailing virus conditions.

The big question when normality resumes is “ will cricket teas resume”? Many clubs are using the conditions of last year to discontinue teas for good. It is easy to understand why as many clubs don't have the traditional tea ladies/men to do the job week in week out and in modern times many of the players want to bring their own “super food”. SHBCC have yet to make a decision on this as have the League Committee. It will be, watch this space.

Both grounds are in decent condition with the “Bridge” being a little drier than the “Castle”

This has been due to a small band of helpers who do it year in year out; this year they have had to observe the covid restrictions but have done a wonderful job under the circumstances.

Our first matches will be early April with the juniors following on close behind. We are looking forward to many of the juniors playing senior cricket this year, they will make up a fair proportion of the 4<sup>th</sup> team. Hopefully this exposure will improve them as cricketers; we have some exciting prospects all the way through the age groups. Boys are deemed eligible for senior cricket at 12 if they are capped at representative level.

We are also in the process of bringing girls to the club with support from area cricket; we hope to build a full girl's side as soon as the numbers prevail. Any girls in the village (6 – 15) or surrounding area who would like to give it a go then get in touch with the Secretary (details on the website).

This is an initiative that we can pursue now that we have grounds and can offer separate facilities for the girls. Currently girls can play in mixed sides and can be one year older than their male counterparts.

Hopefully next month we can report some success on the field; everyone is welcome to come and support us. Fixture lists will be available soon.

## **Village Ramble Returns!**

The Ramblers Association are resuming their programme of walks from April 12<sup>th</sup> which gives the green light to the Sheriff Hutton ramblers. The first Village Ramble since February 2020 will take place on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. To avoid the need for car-sharing it will start and finish at the Village Hall car park at 9.30am and take a route up through Stittenham Woods to enjoy the bluebells. (The pub lunch at the end of the rambles will not resume until we know we can book seating indoors and not have to socially distance.)

So, polish your walking boots and get ready to enjoy a convivial walk of about 5 miles in our part of beautiful North Yorkshire. We are looking forward to seeing you.

## **Sheriff Hutton Field Naturalists**

FROG SPAWN conjures up memories of school dinners. Tapioca or sago pudding described by your friends to put you off the dessert.

Many species have a medium in which the young grow within a protected environment. Frogs are amphibians.

Each female frog produces one clump of frog spawn in a season, usually February to March in a pond or slowly moving stream. A strong current would threaten the survival of the spawn, which must be under water or it would dry out and die. Many frogs use the same body of water, so the growing mass of spawn becomes too large to be eaten by predators. (I assume that Mummy Frogs have some difficulty in identifying their own young bits of spawn).

Frog Spawn jelly is thought to be a cyanobacteria called Nostoc, a type of algae.

The life cycle of the frog starts with clear eggs in a mass of similar eggs. A black entity slowly appears at the centre, which grows in size. Once the jelly like substance is used up, the tadpole emerges with a pronounced tail and grows legs. Two legs at first, then as the tadpole grows in size four legs appear. The disappearance of the tail heralds the emergence of the adult frog. I assume that the jelly like material provides essential nutrients for the growing organism.

A long sticky tongue makes the frog a competent hunter. However, a frog has no roof in its mouth, so must close its eyes and use its eyeballs to force food down its throat.

At hatching time, it is common to see a mass of tiny frogs, like a moving carpet. This annual event is eagerly looked forward to by birds and reptiles, and other higher occupants of the food chain.

Children may like to search for further information by looking at [www.sciencewithme.com](http://www.sciencewithme.com)

Keep your eyes peeled as toads, as well as frogs are likely to be spotted during the next few weeks.

Dave Newman, Chairman, Sheriff Hutton Field Naturalists.

If you are interested to find out more about the Field Naturalists group, please get in touch with either Dave on 878672, Jim on 878667 or Angela on 878347.

## **Sheriff Hutton Bowling Club - 60 years of sport for Sheriff Hutton**

At the time of writing this for the April Village News, we are anticipating being able to open the green for play from April 12<sup>th</sup> (2pm) subject to weather. Local rules will apply and Covid-19 health measures will still be in force, all guided by our national association, Bowls England.

Members and new players should meet at the Clubhouse on Mondays at 2pm from April 12<sup>th</sup> onwards but informal arrangements at other times may be made by paid-up members with access codes.

Internal leagues and competitions will be arranged and entries invited but outside league matches have not yet been arranged.

Any potential new members looking for healthy recreation and stimulating company should join us as above or speak to any member or the undersigned. Equipment and coaching is free.

Roy Thompson, Chairman

[thompsonroy5@gmail.com](mailto:thompsonroy5@gmail.com) or call 07716338924

## **Sheriff Hutton Village Market**

A year on since our last village market and the committee remains in discussion as to when the market will be able to re-open. The safety of our villagers, stallholders and visitors remains of paramount importance. We will therefore continue to monitor the local and national Covid-19 statistics, the success of the vaccination programme and the decisions made by other local markets. With this information we shall make an informed decision as to when the market can re-open in a safe manner. Until then, please do support our fabulous stallholders, details available on our website [www.shvm.co.uk](http://www.shvm.co.uk)

If you would like to join our committee or volunteer on market day, we'd love to hear from you so drop us an email [mail@shvm.co.uk](mailto:mail@shvm.co.uk) or call 878619.

Many thanks on behalf of the Sheriff Hutton Village Market team.

## **Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club**

Good News. The courts are open again and tennis can resume.

The Club welcomes members to the 2021 season and, as Covid-19 restrictions continue to be eased, hope to run a full programme of activities for members of all abilities and ages.

Subscriptions are due on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the security number on the padlocks will be changed on that day, you will need to renew your membership to continue to use the courts. Details of subscription rates and how to pay are on our website.

The Hovingham League tennis will start in May followed by the York Leagues in June.

The Wednesday Ladies sessions will start on Wednesday March 31<sup>st</sup> from 10.00am; these friendly informal sessions are an ideal way of getting back into tennis.

Junior Tennis. Details will be in the May news.

Coaching. We are fortunate to have Ben Orton, LTA level 4 coach, as our affiliated coach, Ben offers individual and group coaching for adults and children. Please contact him on [ben\\_orton@icloud.com](mailto:ben_orton@icloud.com) for further details.

Club Survey. Thank you to the members who took part in our survey, the replies showed the club had a good level of member satisfaction with suggestions on improvements that could be made. The committee are discussing ways to implement the suggestions.

Fund Raising. Louise is running a Plant Sale and Coffee Morning at the courts on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Offers of plants, cakes and general help on the day are very welcome. Contact Louise on [louisechandler28@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:louisechandler28@yahoo.co.uk).

LTA guidelines for using the courts during the pandemic are still in place. Please observe Social Distancing and use the Hand Sanitizers when playing at the courts. The LTA guidelines are on the LTA website.

Please visit our website for up to date information on tennis news

[www.sheriffhuttontennisclub/clubspark/lta.org.uk](http://www.sheriffhuttontennisclub/clubspark/lta.org.uk)

Or contact [josephinejohnson6@gmail.com](mailto:josephinejohnson6@gmail.com) or telephone on 878626

## **Sheriff Hutton Preschool Playgroup**

We currently have spaces available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and are accepting golden ticket letters for funding.

With children leaving us for school in September we have more spaces available so don't hesitate to contact us.

We provide a great environment for your children to enjoy playing, making friends and starting their learning journey which helps make the transition to school very easy once that time comes for them.

Please contact Angela on 07717 799646 or visit the website for availability.

On behalf of the committee I would like to thank our dedicated staff for all their hard work and constant commitment to keeping playgroup a clean and safe environment for the children going there.

## **Babies and toddlers**

Unfortunately we still won't be able to hold our Thursday morning group in a safe way following government guidelines so will have to remain closed until we get told otherwise. Don't forget about our lovely group and hopefully it won't be long before we can have our coffees and biscuits while our children have lots of fun.

Look out for our Facebook page Sheriff Hutton parents, toddlers and babies group and we will update on there also.

Jess Dunford – Chairperson

## Village Hall

We have been looking carefully at the detailed guidance (see: <https://acre.org.uk> ) regarding Community Buildings and the four step roadmap out of Covid-19 lockdown announced on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We have also taken advice from ACRE and confirmed that they agree with the view we have come to, which is as follows:

**At Step 2** of the roadmap, on or after 12<sup>th</sup> April, Community Buildings are permitted to re-open. However, only a very restricted range of activities are permitted. These do include serving food and drink as take-away and wakes or weddings with a maximum of 15 people. We have agreed that the Hall will re-open for the permitted activities. If you wish to discuss whether a specific activity is permitted, please get in touch.

**At Step 3**, on or after 17<sup>th</sup> May, a much wider range of indoor activities will be permitted, in accordance with the "rule of six" and current social distancing measures.

If you have any questions please email us at: [villagehall@sheriffhutton.co.uk](mailto:villagehall@sheriffhutton.co.uk)

## Village Volunteers

Just a reminder that the Village Volunteers are continuing so please do call on them if you would like any help or support.

If anyone has difficulty organising transport to have their vaccination then we do have some offers of help, although I should say that this could be a risk for both the driver and the passenger.

This guidance comes from North Yorkshire:-

- it would be sensible to just take one person or two if they are from the same bubble. All passengers should be in the back
- wear masks and gloves
- open the windows
- when chatting, do not turn round, although you wouldn't if you were driving.
- wipe down the seats etc. when you've finished with either a bacterial spray or hand sanitiser on a cloth
- leave the car doors open for an hour to air thoroughly - providing it's not raining.

And of course, Sue Dodd runs a taxi service. She is always ready to take people to their vaccinations

Finally, a gentle reminder about once we've had our vaccinations. Whilst it's great to hear about more people getting their vaccinations, immunity isn't fully developed at first. "It's better to allow at least three weeks for the immune response to fully develop in older people. Even after you have had both doses of the vaccine you may still give Covid to someone else and the chains of transmission will then continue", says Professor Jonathan Van Tam whom you may have seen on the Downing Street briefings. So, we all still have to be really careful and follow the rules during and after those three weeks.

Jill Hodges 878595 or 07968 052118

## Super-Mobile Library

**The next visit will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021 10.00-12.00 noon.**

This date may be subject to change at short notice in response to changing Covid guidance. During lockdown we are offering a select and collect service. To pre-order a selection of books call 01609 533878 or email [supermobile@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:supermobile@northyorks.gov.uk).

Alternatively, a selection can be made for you from the vehicle on the day of visit. If you wish to request a specific title, please browse our online catalogue at

<https://capitadiscovery.co.uk/northyorkshire>

There may be a small charge for this service and place of reservation using your borrower number and your PIN, selecting 'Supermobile' as your pick-up location.

Free downloads of eBooks and audiobooks are available from our website at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/digital-library](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/digital-library)

If you are not a member of our libraries, you can join at the Super-Mobile Library. It is FREE.

For enquiries, please call 01609 533878 or email [supermobile@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:supermobile@northyorks.gov.uk)

## Some suggested gardening activities in April

- Following a very wet autumn and a much colder and frosty winter than usual suddenly it's spring. Many gardeners may feel that they are playing "catch up" with some of the late winter/early spring jobs. Don't worry about this, just do what you can when you can.  
Whilst timeliness is desirable, we should endeavour to garden in harmony with nature as the seasons unfold. Try to take advantage of the better spells of weather and get out there amidst the spring flowers and bright green bursting buds. Being really precise in respect of sowing and planting dates, pruning, weeding, grass cutting etc. is not always practicable so relax and enjoy.
- Any further prolonged periods of frost are unlikely now, so the pruning of deciduous shrubs that flower from mid-summer onwards can be completed e.g. buddleia davidii. Use well sharpened shears to trim off the old flower heads of winter flowering heathers (*Erica carnea*) and the late summer/ autumn flowering ling (*Calluna vulgaris*). The same treatment should be given to lavender but take care not to cut too hard into older bushes, it can kill them.
- Mulching around plants, particularly young trees, shrubs - including roses - and herbaceous perennials is very beneficial. Mulching will help conserve soil moisture during dry spells, control annual weeds, feed the soil and the biological life within it.  
Garden compost, well-rotted manure, bark chip and composted wood chip are all suitable materials for mulching and should be applied to a depth of 50 mm minimum. This should be done when the soil is moist so that a good permeable interface is formed between the soil and the mulch material. Never apply mulch to soil which is dry or frozen.
- Take care when digging into compost, manure and soil heaps just in case any hedgehogs, toads or frogs are in residence. These are all a helpful part of garden life and need all the encouragement and protection we can offer them.
- With the soil temperature now rising this is the time to be preparing seedbeds for sowing flower and vegetable seeds. During the preparation a moderate amount of lime (calcium carbonate) can be applied. This will benefit most plants - but not when planting potatoes. A small amount of a general compound fertiliser may also be incorporated. During the wet winter much of the calcium and other plant nutrients are likely to have been washed to the lower soil levels or into the drains.  
When sowing seeds in drills do water the drill before sowing and sow small seed thinly and not too deep. Protect seedbed areas from birds, mice, squirrels and cats.
- Early April is a good time to apply to your lawn a spring fertiliser or a "weed and feed plus mosskiller" product. This should be done when the grass is dry to achieve an even distribution. Some gentle irrigation via a sprinkler or hose pipe may be needed to achieve maximum efficiency and effectiveness of the application.
- Sow parsnip, broad bean, lettuce seeds and early pea. Plant onion sets, shallots and garlic. Some of these you may have started off in small pots earlier in the year. Small sowings of saladings such as rocket, radish and spring onions can be made at three or four weekly intervals to give continuity of supply.  
Sow small informal drifts of hardy annuals such as candytuft, cornflower, nigella and linaria in flower borders.
- Start dahlia tubers into growth in pots or boxes but protect from frost and do not plant them out in the open until late May. Softwood nodal cuttings can be taken and rooted in pots or a propagator under glass.
- There is still time to lift and divide hardy herbaceous perennials such as *Helenium*, *Rudbeckia*, *Phlox* and *Aster*. Take divisions from the outside of the clump and discard the old woody centre as appropriate. When replanting incorporate some well-rotted organic matter and water the plants in well.  
Established hardy herbaceous perennials will benefit from a dressing of organic fertiliser especially the leafy *Hostas* and *Hellebores*.
- Deadhead daffodils, hyacinths and early flowering tulips and dwarf bulbous iris to conserve energy in the bulbs/corms but keep the foliage growing until it dies back naturally. Winter/spring flowering pansies will keep producing new buds if the old flowers are regularly dead headed.

Have a happy and joyful Easter, love your garden and take care.

## The Methodist Church

The clocks have been sprung forward and we are officially in Spring. Hedgerows and grassy banks display once more new birth, with abundance of flowers, birds are nest building, the days are longer, sun shines more, nature once more brightens our lives and Covid can't touch it. Hallelujah !

What a wonderful world we are privileged to live in. There's hope too that we'll be able to appreciate it even more as we begin to share our lives together after the vaccinations.

We are hoping to be able to open the Chapel for Sunday worship in May and to see what activities we are allowed to hold during the week. It will be wonderful to meet together for worship and social gathering which has been sorely missed throughout this last year.

But as gradually we resume our lives with more freedom, I hope we won't lose that caring and thinking of others as well as ourselves which has been so uplifting, particularly in our village. Let us not forget that the virus hasn't stopped and we have only got limited protection. So it is still very important that we stay safe, practice good hygiene, and save lives.

GOD BLESS

### Message from Rev. Ruth Duck

A mother's pain

A son

Lovingly held

Warm milk

Swaddled tightly

Tenderly placed

In a borrowed manger

A mother's pain

A son

Roughly nailed

Sour vinegar

Swaddled tightly

Coldly laid

In a borrowed tomb

In some ways it does not seem long since Christmas, and every year we move quickly from Christ's birth through Lent to his death. This annual cycle of hearing the same stories can, if we are not careful, mean that we lose the sense of shock at what happened to Jesus. We see the love shining through the birth of a baby, despite the reality of pain and displacement, but do we see the love and pain also shining through the Easter story?

It is important that we see the Easter story as a whole. We acknowledge the horror of Christ's Crucifixion: the unjust trial that led to a violent execution accompanied by mocking and torture. Jesus, our Saviour, willingly allowed this to happen rather than calling on the angels to intervene. He endured the physical, mental and spiritual pain out of love for each one of us. At the end of the day his body was placed in a tomb, and the disciples must have been devastated at the end of their dreams. They were unable at that point to see how his death was 'good' or worthwhile. And yet..... We call this day of death 'Good Friday'....for through the death of Jesus God somehow wonderfully forgives us, and brings us a new life and relationship with himself.

Saturday is a strange and waiting day. For the Jews, a Sabbath when no work, including attending to the dead, was permitted. A day when Jesus was 'locked down' shut in to the borrowed tomb.

Has the last year felt like a waiting Sabbath to you? A time of rest from the normal and routine – or a time of frustration and isolation? It may even have felt like a time of death, to those experiences and relationships that have given you life in the past. We now have hope that our waiting will soon be over. We may be able to slowly return to our church buildings – and meet for coffee in groups of more than 2 people!

Jesus' escape from his lockdown was not a slow return to the old life. Jesus lockdown was over in an instant when God raised him from death to life. This was not a revival/resuscitation or return to what was – but a new kind of life that was even better than before. God's power over sin and death was complete – evident through the life and death of Jesus – and in the lives of those who trust and follow him.

May God bless you with Easter Joy.



## Notices for St. Helen's for April 2021

Church services resume on Easter Day, April 4<sup>th</sup>, which is lovely news! We will still need to wear masks, hand sanitise and we have a maximum of 30 people per service.

Our Easter Sunday service is a holy communion one and is usually one of our most popular services. We have had to have a booking system on a first come – first served basis. We have had posters up around the village with this information but please contact me on 878595 or [jill.hodges57@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.hodges57@btinternet.com) to check on availability.

The church is still open for private prayer and reflection between services. There will also be some beautiful flowers in the church alongside the traditional Easter garden. Please do come and have a wander and see our lovely village church. Sadly we can't have the Easter Egg hunt this year but it will be something to look forward to for 2022 !

There are also Palm crosses in the porch should anyone want to take one.

### Opening times

Sunday,	4 <sup>th</sup> April,	Easter Day Holy Communion at 10.00am
Sunday,	11 <sup>th</sup> April,	Holy Communion at 10.00am
Sunday,	18 <sup>th</sup> April,	Morning prayer at 10.00am
Saturday,	24 <sup>th</sup> April	Wedding at 3pm. The church will be closed to the public all day.
Wednesday,	28 <sup>th</sup> April	Church open

Please sanitise your hands on entry and departure, and for those of you who have the NHS App please check in with the QR code. Please wear a mask when you are in the church. Thank you.

Jill Donaldson Hodges

### The Churchyard

How good it was to walk through the churchyard this week in the sun. It showed up those spring signs and the new life arriving for this year. There were the primroses coming out on the bank, the snowdrops all around and colour showing in the daffodils. Then, looking at the trees and shrubs, buds are swelling and bark changing colour. Finally, the birdsong showing spring tones too.

The churchyard is certainly a good place to be.

If you get a chance come down and see the great work that John Eastlake has put in over the winter. He has been clearing the overgrown sections against the walls and that opens up the churchyard a lot. His hard work has really paid off this winter.

Over the coming year or two we hope you will see more change as we try to get meadow species of grasses and with flowers back into growth. It will mean we cut some areas more often for a year or two and reduce tussock grass and hog weed.

We are hoping to get permission to take down a few trees which are damaging the wall and also to plant a few in better places to replace them. We aim to put in those that are good for wildlife like rowan and crab apple.

The aim is to make the churchyard a more pleasant and welcoming, walking and sitting area where you will find a lot of wildlife – even more than you can find now. Yes, it is a graveyard, with many links to the people who have lived in the village, but it is also a village green space for the enjoyment of all ages. It is part of the village circle of life.

At this time of year, please could we ask that you remove the Christmas wreaths and flowers/decorations from your loved one's graves to help tidy up. We usually go through the churchyard just after Easter and help by removing them, but if you could do this it helps enormously. They can be put in the green wheelie bin by the main gate or if any of the things can be composted into the new compost bin near the footpath gate at the top of the churchyard, or if not, into the dustbin next to the compost bin. If the wheelie bin or dustbin is full, just leave them close to it and we will bag them up.

If there is anyone who loves the churchyard and all that is there and who can spare a few hours to help out with some of the work that needs doing from time to time, please contact Neil Hodges on [neilhodges@btinternet.com](mailto:neilhodges@btinternet.com) or 878595 or 07973157127.

## St Leonard's, Farlington

After what seems to have been a very long winter, we are pleased to announce that we are re-opening the door of St Leonard's for public services.

Our **Easter Day** celebration will be on Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 11.15am and will be a service of Holy Communion and we hope you will be able to join us. Social distancing remains a requirement which places a restriction of the number we can get into church. Therefore, we need to know in advance if you are intending to attend – please ring Richard Haste on 878581 or email [richardhaste@btinternet.com](mailto:richardhaste@btinternet.com) to reserve a place.

## Other Services in April

After Easter, we shall revert to our usual plan of services. In April these will be :

- Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> : 11.15am : Shortened Matins (BCP)
- Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> : 11.15am : Holy Communion (BCP)

Pre-booking for these services should not be necessary.

Because of the requirement for the church to be thoroughly cleaned after it has been open to the public, opening for **private prayer** will continue – for the time being – to be on Tuesdays and Saturdays only between 10.00am and 4.00pm

The Churchyard remains open at all times and is looking lovely with the spring flowers. Why not go there to enjoy the spring weather and have some 'quiet time.'

## Marton Church

Weather permitting, we will be having a short celebration service in Marton Churchyard at 3pm on Easter Sunday.

Please let me know if you are interested in coming so I can let you know any final details as we are rather weather dependent.

From Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April, we will be re-opening Marton Church for personal prayer on Thursdays 9.00am to 12noon and Sundays 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

Please wear a mask and use hand sanitiser before and after entering church or just come for a quiet sit or wander in our churchyard at any time you're passing. Marton Church is too small to allow socially distanced services inside at this time so we continue to wait as patiently as we can until this is possible again.

[martonintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:martonintheforest@gmail.com) 878242

## Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club Bring and Buy Plant Sale and Cafe

Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club is fundraising and will be hosting a Bring and Buy plant sale and outdoor cafe at the tennis club on Bank Holiday Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 12 noon-3pm. Please bring along your labelled seedlings, cuttings, plants, fruit canes etc. between 10am-11:30am on the day, alternatively contact Louise Chandler on 878619 who will happily collect plant donations.

The event will be held in line with Government Covid-19 regulations and will be an outdoor event.

## Yesterday's Village – Foss Navigation

During the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the River Foss was navigable from York to Sheriff Hutton Bridge. Coal was brought up the river by barge and then carried by donkey cart to the village. The houses on the left-hand side as we go to York, just over the bridge, was a public house at which the bargees could get refreshment and spend the night when necessary. In the years 1793 and 1801 Acts of Parliament were obtained for the making of the Foss navigable from York to Stillington Mill but they never got further than Sheriff Hutton Bridge.

*(Written about 1938, author unknown)*

## **Gardening Club (but if you are interested in photography please read too)**

We still won't be able to have our usual gardening club meeting in the village hall in April. But we are pleased to announce that we have arranged another zoom meeting, on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30 pm. This month the speaker is Andrew Chandler who will give an illustrated talk on "How to photograph your garden". He is a professional photographer based near Beverley, and his work covers a wide range of subjects. As previously, nearer the time we will send out a link to the zoom meeting to all club members for whom we have email addresses. But again, non-members are very welcome to join us, and obviously this meeting may particularly interest anyone who likes taking photographs. They just need to email us on [shgardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:shgardeningclub@gmail.com) by 14<sup>th</sup> April to ask for an invitation and Zoom link. Your first zoom meeting as a non-member is free (though we usually make a small charge when we meet in the hall). If you would like to join the gardening club just send an email to the address given earlier to arrange that.

Unfortunately, it is still too soon to finalise plans for the rest of the year's programme. But we hope to be able to arrange some garden visits, as well as the show and autumn meetings, in due course.

## **Message from the Jumbles**

The spring bulbs are in bloom, the longer days are so welcome and at last we can make some provisional plans.

We are looking at restarting our Jumble Sales on the 8<sup>th</sup> September but this will depend on everything going according to plan and there being no further spike in cases of Covid-19.

There will have to be some changes to ensure everyone is as safe as possible but I am sure our customers will appreciate this. As the months go by we will be able to see more clearly how things are progressing and make firm plans accordingly. Hopefully the number of cases will continue to reduce and the vaccination campaign maintains its incredible progress. We are all looking forward so much to regaining our freedom, enjoying the summer without restrictions and being able to meet up with our families and friends again.

Until then keep following the rules mask up, keep your distance and keep smiling

**Penny Bean and all the Sheriff Hutton Jumbles – Turning cast offs into cash - 878392**

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

It has been brought to my attention that prowlers were picked up on CCTV, at a property in the village late in the evening on the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> March. I also have a report of a theft of heating oil in the order of 700 litres, this quantity of oil suggests a fairly professional approach and oil tank security is not easy, so it needs to be addressed. Also it is important to be vigilant, I have heard of a case of an oil tanker assumed to be delivering oil in daylight, was actually "collecting" oil! It is vital that the registration number and vehicle details are obtained and reported to the Police, if potentially suspicious vehicles or activity are observed. The 101 system can be very busy, but there is the option of the calling you back, but as always, if a crime is being committed, 999 will give a better response. At the time of going to press, I have no knowledge of any further instances of either event.

Terry Johnson, Lead Coordinator

Tel. 878626, or [terryj70@btinternet.com](mailto:terryj70@btinternet.com)

## Sheriff Hutton History Group

In the March News we highlighted an extract from The Impressions of History a personal account by Nancy Megginson this month we are continuing with Nancy's memories of the Church school.

**Church School** built in 1873 it is now part of the Old School House and stands opposite Beaumont's garage. Cyril Johnson was the head in the 1930's, he left at the outbreak of war to take up a head ship of a larger York school. He was succeeded by another Johnson who had come from the south with his wife and family to escape the air-raids. He was a keen musician and a fine pianist, he even managed to play the piano with his nose so great was his enthusiasm. Under his tuition the children learned a great deal about music, but perhaps not so much about the 3 R's. The schools layout was similar to that of the little school. Two classrooms, a boys and a girls porch and earth lavatories up the yard. Both schools were heated with large Tortoise stoves which burned coke and in winter these stoves glowed red with heat. The playgrounds were however different with a high dividing wall separating the girls playground from the boys. Behind the school were a series of small plots within box hedges it was the job of the boys to tend these small gardens whilst the girls had sewing lessons.

Each Thursday morning the vicar came to school to teach the children their catechism this was not mind gripping and many the boy and girl who have been sent out or made to stand on the bench for not paying attention. Another regular visitor was the school attendance officer a Mr. Clayton known by the children and parents as the Kid Catcher. He came to check up on absenteeism, the poor man was used by parents to get children to school. School inspectors put in an appearance more than once during the school year. Teachers were usually forewarned of their arrival and the brightest children were primed to produce work or do their party piece.

The school nurse visited once a term looking for head lice. The school doctor came to examine the children it was always requested that a parent be present on that occasion. A visit from the school dentist was one of the most dreaded, his examinations, extractions and fillings were carried out in the old village institute. The cookery van's arrival in the village for a six week stay was much looked forward to by the girls. Each group of girls had a three week stint in the van where they learned the rudiments of hygiene, cleaning, scrubbing washing and cooking. Very old fashioned by present day standards but what fun.

School life was turned upside down with the arrival of the evacuees. Everyone did their best to make them feel welcome. They came from Middleborough, West Hartlepool and Hull complete with their own teaching staff, classrooms were overcrowded even the chapel vestry was brought into use for the overflow. There were inevitable fights and wars between the 'townies' and the 'country bumpkins'. Those unable to adapt to a rural way of life soon returned home after the first few weeks. Others settled down and stayed till the end of the war. Several have been back over recent years to look up old haunts and to trace the families with whom they were billeted. The wartime innovation of extra holidays to help pick potatoes was welcomed by the children; a chance to have extra holidays and earn more money too was a bonus. After the war headmaster Johnson returned to southern climes and Mick Metcalfe who had married a local lass May Ward took over the head ship. He was a tough but good teacher he made the children work and got the best out of them. The more academic children won scholarships at eleven and thirteen to the York grammar schools the majority staying on until fourteen or fifteen years old.

The village schools did a good job. They turned out honest, upstanding, well balanced caring youngsters who went into the world equipped for life.'

We hope you have enjoyed reading this account from Nancy we are very grateful to her for this personal insight into what was for her was an interesting and enjoyable school experience.

We are very fortunate to have been donated a great number of photographs showing children at school and play in Sheriff also class photographs through the years. Any photographs you may have been sorting during the lockdown and would like pass them on to the archives or any historical information that readers may have in connection to this article please ring Meg 878136

## Yesterday's Village

### The Elocutionist

Mary Russell, who had a marvellous memory, was the village elocutionist of her day. She didn't need a large audience either for her performances for if she saw Mr Coates in the village street she would stop in front of him and go through one of her long poems. We are not told whether he remained listening to the end or not.

*(Written about 1938, author unknown)*

### Some People of Note

I ought to mention first and foremost a celebrated poet named Gower who was born in Stittenham in 1320, and who was acknowledged by Chaucer to be his master as well as his friend and coadjutor in polishing up the English language, and by some people he has been regarded as the father of English poetry.

But our thoughts will turn instinctively to men of whom we have all heard, like the Revd Edwin Dalton, a village lad who though poor, worked hard until he was able to enter the Primitive Methodist Ministry, and who eventually became the President of the Conference.

There are others too, living today, who have gone from the village and have held and are holding good positions, but I will mention two only of these. Mr Herbert Calvert, the son of Mrs Henry Calvert, who is today the Headmaster of the Hessle senior Council School which accommodates over 400 children and has 15 or 16 teachers. He is well known too in the Musical World, more especially for his success in the training of Choral Societies.

Now last, but not least, I want to mention one in whom we all here have, or will have, a special interest, because he has been a scholar in this school and has ever had an interest in our Methodist Cause here at Sheriff Hutton. I refer to the Right Hon. Lord Mayor of York, Alderman Charles Hutchinson [*Lord Mayor 1937 – 1938, profession listed as grocer*], and I am proud to tell you that his Lordship has expressed a desire to visit his native place in his capacity as Lord Mayor at least once during his term of office.

*(Written about 1938, author unknown)*

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## Village Regular Activities

Sun	9.30am	Holy Communion	Parish Church but check in church for details			
	10.30am	Morning Service	Methodist Church			
Mon				7.00pm	Sewing Class	Village Hall
				7.30pm	Yoga	Village School
				7.30pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Tues	9.15am	Pilates	Village Hall	7.00pm	Circuit Training	Village Hall
	10.30am	Pilates	Village Hall	8.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Wed	9.30am	Yoga	Village Hall			
	10.00am	Drop-in for Coffee	Miss Ward Room			
	10.30am	Ladies Tennis	Tennis Club			
Thurs	9.45am	Babes and Toddlers	Village Hall	6.30pm	Youth Group	Village Hall

## Additional Activities in April

Fri	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting via zoom
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Gardening Club meeting via Zoom – <i>How to Photograph Your Garden an Illustrated Talk by Andrew Chandler</i>
Fri	23 <sup>rd</sup>	10 – 12 noon	Super-Mobile Library in the Village Hall car park
Thurs	29 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Village Ramble – <i>Meet at the Village Hall Car Park</i>

## Dates to Note

May	31 <sup>st</sup>	12noon-3.00pm	Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club Bring and Buy Plant Sale and Cafe
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**To Hire the Village Hall, call 07894 734446 or email [SHVHbookings@gmail.com](mailto:SHVHbookings@gmail.com)**

**To contact the Village News production team email [villagenews@sheriffhutton.co.uk](mailto:villagenews@sheriffhutton.co.uk) alternatively, call**

Richard and Wendy Haste (878581), Brian and Lynne Shepherd (878310)  
Peter Hepburn (878795) or Melanie Hunt (878711)

Items for the **May Village News** must reach the Editors by **no later than April 18<sup>th</sup>**