

# Sheriff Hutton Village News



Number 617

March 2021

## Parish Council

[www.sheriffhutton.co.uk](http://www.sheriffhutton.co.uk)

The Parish Council met online via Zoom on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Councillors present at the online meeting were Penny Bean (Chairman), Marcus Oxendale, Martin Dodd, Elaine Nelson, Dave Smith & Sam Warriner. Louise Pink – Clerk.

The following new planning application was received for consideration:

20/01045/FUL Golden Flatts Farm, Daskett Hill, Sheriff Hutton

Erection of a horse walker.

Decision – No Objection.

No new planning decisions were received.

## Dog Fouling

The issue of dog fouling throughout the village remains. Civil Enforcement Officers from Ryedale District Council have been patrolling the village and anyone in charge of a dog, who does not clear up after their dog, is liable for a fine by the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice. This applies on any land which the Council has designated under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.

If you see anyone not clearing up after their dog please report it to Ryedale District Council on 01653 600666, ext. 208 or email - [dogwarden@ryedale.gov.uk](mailto:dogwarden@ryedale.gov.uk).

Fixed penalty notices may be issued by local authority officers, Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers or any person with designated powers. It is essential that dog owners keep an eye on their dogs at all times.

## Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 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.

## Lillings Ambo Parish Council

We are delighted that Mr. Jonathan Pulleyn was co-opted onto the Parish Council in February. However, we still have a Vacancy for one more Parish Councillor. So, if you would like to help in maintaining and improving life in West Lilling, then perhaps you, as a resident, would like to consider being one of our five parish councillors. Please don't think you haven't the time. We meet only four times a year, although at the moment, due to social restrictions our meetings are conducted by "Zoom". All planning applications are viewed on Ryedale District Council's website and communication is by email, with an occasional extra meeting when we really do need to discuss something.

Please, help our village by giving just a little of your time. Your experiences and opinions matter.

Please email our Clerk, Fiona Hill, at [lillingsamboparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:lillingsamboparishcouncil@outlook.com) for additional information and to confirm your interest.

Helen Loynes

Chairman of Lillings Ambo Parish Council

## Friends of Sheriff Hutton Village Hall 200 Club

February £25 prize winning numbers were 54, 69, 130, 134 and 230.

## Supermobile Library

**The next visit will be on FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020 between 10.00-12.00**

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 a 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 Supermobile Library. It is FREE!

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

## Local Birdwatch

You may be familiar with the RSPB's recent 'Big Garden Birdwatch' wild bird count that encouraged us to record the number of wild birds that visited our gardens. Don't worry if you missed it, you now have the chance to be part of our 'Local Birdwatch' which is focussing on the different species of wild birds that visit our gardens as opposed to the actual number of birds.

Wild birds are not only a joy to watch but also play an important role in a healthy garden and often become reliant upon us throughout the year. They are a natural way to control pests, help to pollinate plants, spread seeds and some even nibble the weeds. Adults and children alike can learn and enjoy our garden birdlife by feeding them daily year-round, offering fresh water and taking a few minutes to note what species are visiting (even if it's only weekend observations that you have time for).

### Feeding

Bird food varies (seed, sunflower hearts, fat balls & suet blocks, meal and calci worms, peanuts and much more) however, it is recommended that if you use seed, it's 'clean and no mess' seed meaning that the birds consume it all and don't leave anything which may encourage vermin. There are certain feeders available for each different type of bird food, even feeders that stick to your window so that, garden or not, you can still enjoy watching the birds up close.

Finding fresh water during the winter when the ground is frozen as well as in the summer when it's hot can be a struggle for birds. So, by getting yourself into a routine is a great way to look after your feathered friends, I would suggest:

**Early morning** - put out feeders (up high and out of reach from cats) and top up water (a simple margarine tub is enough for them to drink and bathe)

**Before dusk** - bring the feeders indoors to discourage vermin

**Monthly** - wash feeders and water bowls in hot soapy water to reduce bacteria and disease

For now, get your feeders up, watch and identify the birds and make a note of the different species that you see up until the end of the month. The RSPB has a list of garden birdlife or, alternatively books are available from £2.99.

Then simply ring 01347 878619 or email [enquiries@everythingbutthepet.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@everythingbutthepet.co.uk) giving a list of the species that you've spotted. The Village News will post a monthly update and give you some hints & tips too. Happy Twitching!

## Village Hall and Play Area - grounds maintenance

At the time of writing, we are waiting for information about plans to allow community buildings to re-open from lock-down. However, we do know that the grass will start growing when the temperature rises and we have recently agreed a new contract for mowing and strimming the grounds of the Village Hall, including the children's play area.

For the coming year grass cutting will take place on Monday mornings. The Play Area will be closed while the grass is being cut in that area, for safety reasons.

*Best wishes to you from all those involved in managing the Village Hall. If you have any questions please email us at: [villagehall@sheriffhutton.co.uk](mailto:villagehall@sheriffhutton.co.uk)*

## **Sheriff Hutton Art Group**

What a year this has been!

As is the case with all art groups, we have not been able to meet together properly since the beginning of last year. Many of us have lacked motivation for painting throughout this time but one idea gave some of us the desire to challenge ourselves to paint at home again.

After some discussion the theme - 'A Room with a View' was agreed and several members are working on the challenge. You may see some of the results when we next hold an Exhibition.

It was hugely disappointing that our 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Art Exhibition was cancelled last year and sadly this year's is still very unlikely to take place. It may be possible to run one later in the year if Covid restrictions change and we are able to count visitors in and out safely.

One bright spot last August, when we were partially released from many restrictions, occurred when six members of our committee met for an informal painting session in the Village Hall. Happy that we could enjoy safely sharing the space for art sessions we looked forward to our Autumn/Winter workshops. However, this was not to be as Government restrictions were once again enforced and all five of the workshops had to be cancelled one by one.

Now there is some hope of returning to a type of normality, I am holding my breath and have begun booking artists for all five workshops for the coming Autumn/Winter session.

Patrick Smith, Sheriff Hutton's own resident artist has agreed to run our first workshop on October 9<sup>th</sup> so we have something exciting to look forward to. His energy and enthusiasm is sure to inspire us all once again!

I hope that my next report is a more optimistic about the Group's endeavours.

Val Emery (Secretary)

## **Sheriff Hutton Bowling Club (60 years of supporting village sport).**

I am writing this in the middle of February for the March Village News by which time we may know more on what our recreational future might look like for the summer. The pandemic has had a disastrous effect on indoor sports as well as outdoor so planning is difficult but costly preparations of the green need to go ahead in anticipation of being able to open sometime in April or later.

Lawn bowling is seen by the Sports Council as having a noticeable benefit to those who are able to play at all ages - our oldest player is in his nineties! As the lockdown eases you might want to consider seriously how bowls could help your mental and physical well-being at a modest cost and without travelling outside the village.

We anticipate there might be difficulties with league matches and so we will have Plan B ready as last year, where all players of any ability (including starters) can join in a team competition on Monday afternoons without commitment to playing every week if it suits you, allowing for holidays (remember them?) and other commitments. Some starters have used this route to become very competent players and have enjoyed the gentle banter and informal coaching. Equipment is freely available.

Please contact me anytime for a chat if you need more information. You may also wish to help the club in its 60th Year by entering the Annual Draw, and details are available from the Secretary (see below) or Terry Fisher, Treasurer on 01347 878314.

Look out for green opening dates in the April Village News.

Roy Thompson, Chairman/Secretary 01347 878644 / 07716338924 or email [thompsonroy5@gmail.com](mailto:thompsonroy5@gmail.com)

## **Sheriff Hutton Ladies Group**

The SHLG committee have discussed when we might be able to meet again in 2021 all our meetings have been cancelled until at least June more probably July. We have all missed the opportunity to share time together. The provisional plan for July is to have a meeting with afternoon tea and for August, we have booked a speaker. Both of these meetings are 2pm until 3.30/4pm. Clearly this will have to be confirmed, depending on the state of the virus and the success of the vaccination programme.

We will keep our fingers crossed that we can go ahead. If anyone would like to join our group, they will be very welcome and can contact either Linda or myself on the telephone numbers below.

Barbara Grinham (chair)  
01347878476  
07811259184

Linda Turner (Secretary)  
01347878037  
07453393286

## **Sheriff Hutton History Group**

This month we have an extract from Impressions of a History by our very dear friend and supporter Nancy Megginson who has been an invaluable source of local history. Nancy has vast knowledge of a life lived in Sheriff with information about the village and its inhabitants which she enjoys sharing with us, her memories of times gone by are priceless in helping us build a collection of life in Sheriff Hutton through the years.

### **School Time - Play Time by Nancy Megginson**

There were two schools in the Sheriff Hutton in the 1930's, the Wesleyan and the Church.

The Wesleyan was built in 1845 at the bottom of the Methodist car park (sadly now demolished). The Church School built in 1873 is now part of the Old School House and stands opposite Beaumont's garage.

Each school ran independently, children beginning school at five and continuing until fourteen years. It was not until the mid- 1930's that the North Riding Education Authority took over the running of these two schools and thus the pattern was changed. The Wesleyan become the infants, taking 5 - 8year old's and the Church became the senior school taking in 8 - 14. The two schools were known colloquially as the little and big schools.

Miss Eva Thwaites was head of the little school. The school consisted of two classrooms one large one small, a boy's porch and a girl's porch. The sanitation was primitive with outside earth toilets. Children living outside the village brought packed lunches and were provided with enamel plates and mugs of hot cocoa, all very civilised. Morning play got off to a good start with beakers of Horlicks made in a large white jug with a metal plunger. The small beakers were delightful with nursery rhymes round the sides. Eventually the Horlicks was replaced with 1/3pint bottles of milk with cardboard tops in which a straw could be inserted. Not very palatable in winter with ice on top!

Miss Thwaites was an excellent though strict teacher. She would not tolerate bad language, any child heard swearing would be taken into the porch to have their mouth washed out with soapy water.

A favourite game with boys would be Fox Off - a bit like a paper chase, this would be played through lunch hour, invariably some boys would be late back for afternoon lessons, this resulted in a caning. The cane was kept in the teacher's desk, a fearsome object with a knob on the end. The number of strokes was dependent on the severity of the 'crime' committed.

Each morning the school would begin with news. Any child with interesting news or happenings at home was invited to share it with the class. There were some parents not too happy about this system feeling that family matters were being divulged to the public.

Children would take turns to read. Nine out of ten meant a gold star and a dolly mixture. Nature walks were a fairly regular occurrence. Spring, summer and autumn would see a crocodile of small children wending their way up the village street usually heading for the castle and moats.

The school day ended with Miss Thwaites reading to the class, the all-time favourites being Rudyard Kipling's 'Just So' stories and in particular 'How the Elephant got its Trunk'. This was a happy, well run school by a teacher who was highly esteemed and held in great affection by the people of Sheriff Hutton.

As always, the History group welcomes any historical information that readers may have in connection to this article.

## **Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club**

The courts remain closed due to the lockdown but the club hope that restrictions will be lifted by April to allow play to resume in time for the club's new season.

The AGM will be held by Zoom on Monday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, this is an important meeting where Members can have their say on how the club should proceed in the coming season. Subscriptions will be due on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the new subscription rate will be fixed at the meeting along with team, club and junior tennis. A new committee will be elected so if you enjoy using the courts, would like to be part of the team supporting this village amenity, please consider joining the committee. Details of the Zoom link for the AGM are available from [josephinejohnson6@gmail.com](mailto:josephinejohnson6@gmail.com)

Members Survey. Thank you for all your replies and comments on the survey, the committee was pleased to get such positive feedback and is looking for ways to proceed with your suggestions.

Please visit our website for up-to-date information [www.sheriffhuttontennisclub.clubspark/ita.org.uk](http://www.sheriffhuttontennisclub.clubspark/ita.org.uk)

Or contact [josephinejohnson6@gmail.com](mailto:josephinejohnson6@gmail.com) or telephone on 01347878626

## 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, don't turn round, although you wouldn't if you were driving!
- wipe down seats etc. when you've finished with either bacterial spray or hand sanitiser on a cloth
- could 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

There have been several cases of coronavirus in the village and at least two people have been hospitalised. One told us they would not wish it on anyone! We do have to continue with the lockdown behaviours, hard as it is.

Sheriff is not a case-free area and we all have to follow the current rules really carefully; staying at home, only necessary journeys for work, shopping or medication (and the Village Volunteers can help to minimise these journeys), no socialising or mixing households unless bubbling, exercising with only one person from another household, keeping 2 metres apart and wearing masks.

However, at the time of writing things may have changed, but it doesn't look like that will be in the immediate future.

And 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 those rules during and after those three weeks.

It does seem that we, as a country, are still at a vital stage. Although the number of cases is decreasing the actual number of cases, hospitalisations and deaths are still high and anything that we can all do help to reduce risk, infections, hospitalisation and very sadly deaths, can only be useful to put it mildly. We are so close to having everyone being vaccinated, let's do all we can to help our community keep safe.

Jill Hodges 878595 or 07968 052118

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

Church continues to remain closed for services but it is still open for private prayer and reflection:

However, we do have Zoom services and Steve sends round a weekly update with prayers and reflections. If anyone would like to receive this either by email or to have a paper copy, then please let me know and I'll arrange.

Opening times:

Thursday	4 <sup>th</sup>	March
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	March
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>	March
Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup>	March
Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	March
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	March
Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup>	March

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.

We do keep things under review and will let you know when we can open church for actual services in person!

Jill Hodges, 878595 or [jill.hodges57@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.hodges57@btinternet.com)

## THE METHODIST CHURCH

We could have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday but sadly the village churches were not able to meet the day after to acknowledge the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. This is the time when Christians remember the 40 days that Jesus fasted in the desert and was tempted to reject God's will and live only for himself and to be greater than anyone else. The village churches would have shared in a bread and cheese lunch followed by prayers and meditation with our ministers if it had been possible.

Lent is a time when many people give things up, perhaps chocolate or smoking and then there is great rejoicing on Easter Sunday when we can have the Easter eggs. The church practice is for it to be a time of reflection and meditation on the type of life we are living and whether there are any aspects we are not happy with and what sort of a world we might have if we all changed our own ways.

Everyone is speculating what we want to happen after lockdown and what will take place. What should have priority, how are we to be kept safe, when can I please myself. Great temptations to us, our country and the world. It is hoped we may have learned from the pandemic that the virus can affect all human beings, irrespective of race, colour or faith and that by living and caring for one another equally we could have a much better world. There's a meditation for you during the last days of Lent which ends on March 28<sup>th</sup> the beginning of Holy Week.

### Marton Church

Although it might appear that 'nothing is happening' there's still a lot going on behind the scenes! Many thanks to Rev Steve who faithfully sends out a weekly email to the parishes - we will be getting our 50th edition shortly.

For all those who Zoom, there is now a weekly service on Sundays, a weekly Lent Study group, and daily prayer most days in Lent. (Paper copies are available to anyone who can't Zoom but would still like to participate - please just let us know if you would like this.) We also have a Marton Friends email each week with news about the church.

We are thinking ahead about how to celebrate Easter this year, what are our priorities for maintenance in this beautiful church, and what sort of activities might be possible once restrictions are eased? We plan to remember John Clarke with a musical celebration and give thanks for the lives of the Brooke/Gale family who have had such an important historical link with the church. Meanwhile, we know that spring days and sunshine will also mean that our wildlife begins to emerge from winter hibernation and dormancy.

We look forward to the opportunity to do the same as a church! Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any ideas about how we can serve and support our local communities.

Caroline Hunt and Sue Whiting (Churchwardens)  
[martonintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:martonintheforest@gmail.com) or 01347 878242 or 01347 810251

### St Leonard's, Farlington

At the time of writing the snowdrops are in full flower, bringing a note of brightness to the churchyard and the daffodils are pushing through strongly. Soon they will be making the next reassuring 'statement' that winter is getting behind us and we can look forward to spring and the longer, lighter days. The churchyard is open at all times so please do go along and enjoy it just as a welcoming space alive with spring flowers or a place where you can enjoy some 'quiet time.'

The church continues to be open on **Tuesdays and Saturdays between 10.00am and 3.00pm** for private prayer and for time of quiet contemplation.

Looking ahead, the Covid-19 vaccination programme is progressing faster than any of us could have asked for; we hope that this means we shall be able to resume services quite soon and welcome you back into St Leonard's.

## **Sheriff Hutton Field Naturalists**

Time is nature's way of stopping everything happening at once.

As I write, the countryside is under snow and some ground is frozen solid. Nevertheless, things are stirring. This is a good time to notice how mother nature makes things happen as if to a carefully planned schedule.

In extreme years, when a particular food source is in short supply this is likely to affect the population size of any bird, plant or mammal dependant on it. (I include water as a resource). However, failure of one species to thrive could well be an opportunity for another species to occupy that niche. Many flowers need to have their seeds dispersed over a wide area so that they can proliferate and thrive as a species. Their timetable of events provides for the arrival / hatching of insects and pollinators to be advanced to the time when visiting birds migrate here for the summer months.

Conversely, birds that depend on worms and insects cannot access this food source in winter when the ground is frozen, so many fly off to warmer climes where the ground is still soft and they can have a good old dig about for food. Those birds that stay have developed a more varied diet. Late frosts can do serious damage to the survival prospects of the young, so nature provides for the reduction in the urge to mate in very cold weather (Probably, a delay in the arrival of pollinators is the plant equivalent of this). Timing is the key! Some plants send out their flowers first, (e.g., Magnolia) pushing out their leaves later when the precious seeds have formed, and can be eaten and dispersed. A membrane seems to protect buds during growth just like the young unborn mammals. Whilst birds are busy nest building and then mating, the plant seeds or soft young leaves are starting on their journey to be in peak perfection when the parent bird need to feed their young.

The lacewings that have slept in your loft are still snoozing; the chrysalises hanging in the garden shed are not quite ready to emerge as butterflies. Flowers in bud are wilting in the overnight frost– well actually the nutrients in the plant have just, temporarily, withdrawn from the stems into the ground and relative warmth. So, activity is returning to the Earth, it's just some of it is still hiding!

Keep safe, protect the NHS, enjoy spring and all the joys that come with it.

Dave Newman B.Sc., Chairman SH 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 Bridge Cricket Club**

SHBCC has named its team leadership for the coming season and exciting it is!

1 <sup>st</sup> XI Captain	Adam Fisher
Vice Captain	Mark Fisher
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI Captain	Danny Cass
Vice Captain	Tadenda Shuttleworth
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI Captain	Danny Kiernan
Vice Captain	Dave Bradshaw
4 <sup>th</sup> XI Captain	Josh Moate
Vice Captain	Neil Cowton

This is a wonderful investment in youth backed up by experience which we hope will pay dividends in years to come. Our second team captains are very young and the club has put faith in their ability to grow and learn under tough conditions. Our talented juniors who have stepped up or are ready to step up this year will gain great knowledge and direction to their game from the experienced 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> team management. The club in general prides itself in its amateur status which at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team level is pitched most weeks against clubs who pay their players.

Our success in winning the White Rose trophy two years ago proves what can be done; we are planning through our youth to have another serious tilt in the not-too-distant future.

We have purchased some new ground equipment which should enable us to continue to improve our facilities at "The Bridge" (one of the best rated playing surfaces in the league) but more importantly at the Castle ground. The club believes it is important that the players have the opportunity to improve their game on good true wickets, especially the juniors.

Ron McBride  
07950816933

## Gardening Club

It doesn't seem likely that we can resume meetings in the hall for a while.

So, the gardening club is having another online meeting, using zoom, on Wednesday 17 March at 7.30 pm. This month the speaker is Andy Bolton whose talk is titled "An Introduction to Japanese Gardens".

As in February, 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. They just need to email us on [shgardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:shgardeningclub@gmail.com) by 10 March 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).

At time of writing (in mid-February) it is still too soon make any firm plans for the rest of the year's programme. But we are lining up various possibilities for meetings and visits depending on what we can do when. Once that is clearer, we will let you have details of what we are planning.

However, taking our approach of doing as much as we can do safely and legally, we have already decided to try to go ahead with the usual sunflower and potato competitions. If going out for exercise is still allowed in March (which hopefully is very likely), you might want your exercise to include a walk along Castle View one day. **On 5, 6 and 7 March sunflower seeds, potatoes and pots for the competitions will be available outside 16 Castle View** for you to collect as you are passing on your exercise. But please don't congregate there and make sure you keep an appropriate distance apart if you happen to be passing at the same time as someone else.

### Seasonal activities in the garden - March

- Obtain the potato sets, onion sets, tubers, bulbs and corms that you require for the imminent spring sowing and planting season. The great resurgence of interest in gardening, particularly growing your own vegetables and fruit, has resulted in unprecedented demands for bare root fruit trees, roses and many other plants. No doubt it will be the same for seeds and compost so make haste.
- Brighten up your garden during winter and early spring by growing some Lenten roses. *Helleborus orientalis* and its many hybrids and cultivars is by far the best known of the fifteen or so different species of hellebore. The Lenten rose, with each elegant bloom the shape of a single flowered rose, flowers during the Lent period. But is not even related to the true rose.  
With a good range of colours and some double flowered cultivars, these plants are very hardy and quite happy in sunshine or shade. They associate well with snowdrops, winter aconites, crocus and other early flowering bulbs

To maximise the colourful display that hellebores can provide, the old leathery leaves should be cut off at soil level from February onwards. This not only reveals the lovely Flowers more fully but also helps to control the black fungal spot disease that can disfigure these plants.

All parts of hellebore plants are poisonous if ingested but don't let this put you off growing them because the same applies to quite a lot of ornamental plants. The sap of the plant can also be a skin irritant, so do wear gloves when cutting back the old prickly leaves. New leaves will emerge in early spring.

- Rose pruning should be completed by the end of this month. The prunings and any fallen leaves may carry spores of black spot and rose rust diseases, so collect up the rubbish and bin it. Rose bushes will respond well to a dressing of organic fertiliser e.g. blood, fish and bone meal which can be applied to the soil following pruning. This should be pricked in lightly with a border fork and watered in if the soil is dry.
- Grow some succulent pink sticks of rhubarb for use in April by placing a large tub or small barrel over a well-established rhubarb crown now. The frost to which the rhubarb crowns and roots have been exposed during the past two months will have been beneficial and will enable better production when forced.
- Pot plants such as pelargoniums and fuchsias can be pruned and re-potted into new compost in slightly larger pots. Check the plants carefully for aphids, mealy bug and glasshouse red spider mite (which are scarcely visible to the naked eye) all of which should be removed or washed off.
- If a heated glasshouse or small propagating frame is available, some early sowings of half-hardy annuals such as lobelia and antirrhinum can be made.
- Sow semi-dwarf broad beans e.g. "The Sutton" or "Robin Hood" in individual 6cm pots to be planted out in early April for an early crop. The same thing can be done with peas e.g. "Early Onward" sown three or four peas per pot. Good light is required but little or no heat.
- I hope that given some better weather you will soon be able to enjoy some much-needed gardening therapy. Enjoy the early spring flowers and break yourself in gently to the many tasks that lie ahead.



## Samaritans Christmas Shoe Box appeal

No, I hear you cry, not Christmas articles already! I would apologise if it wasn't for such a great cause. While we still spending more time at home under our current restrictions, a plea to all the wonderful knitters out there for hats and scarves for 2 – 14year old boys and girls, it would be hugely appreciated? The more colourful the better. Remember too, that we will be needing standard sized shoe boxes wrapped in Christmas paper and small items to go in them. For more information look up the link below and for any contributions please drop them into 2 Manchester House (red door), New Lane. Very many thanks, Melanie.  
<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>

## Collective Village Oil Buying Group

Just to advise the Village Oil Buying Group in Sheriff Hutton, Lilling, Whenby, Farlington and Stittenham, and in addition anyone who wants to join in, that we propose to place four orders per year with the option of another based on demand. The estimated delivery dates would be:

Early April this year. (**Order cut-off 24<sup>th</sup> March**): late August: late November: late January

You can of course still join even if you only order occasionally.

If you have already given your details to the group, you will receive a reminder in advance of the deadlines asking for confirmation on whether you require an order and if so the details.

The group, run by volunteers purely for the convenience and to provide savings to Villagers, was set up many years ago buying heating oil as a group for Sheriff Hutton and Lilling. We are now pleased to be able to extend this to Whenby, Farlington and Stittenham. On the last 2 orders despite very different oil prices each person saved 10% or more on the standard order price including VAT.

If you would like to join please email us at [sheriffhuttonoil@gmail.com](mailto:sheriffhuttonoil@gmail.com) with your name, email, back up phone number, address, location of oil tank and oil order or request to be added to database.

After the deadline and we have the total number of litres required we can discuss the price with BATA and then let each person know how much their order will cost and the planned delivery date.

We will in future aim to place the order two weeks before the actual delivery date to try and get a more accurate delivery date from the supplier.

The minimum quantity which can be ordered is 500 litres, but you can order any number of litres above that. Payment can be made to the driver or by phone to BATA within 7 days of the delivery.

Please note to enable the group to work your details will be held on a database, and certain details e.g., name and order shared with the rest of the group and name, address and contact details will be provided to BATA or a future oil provider in connection with oil orders. Privacy statement available on request.

**Contact [sheriffhuttonoil@gmail.com](mailto:sheriffhuttonoil@gmail.com) to join the group - we look forward to hearing from you.**

## Message from the Jumbles

The days are getting longer, the spring bulbs are popping up and the vaccination programme is going well making us all feel a bit brighter and more optimistic that restrictions may be eased in the not-too-distant future. I am sure we are all looking forward so much to being able to meet up with our families and friends and move about more freely. At the end of the month when the clocks go forward, although we will lose an hour of sleep initially, we gain lighter nights at the end of what has seemed such a long depressing winter.

**Calling all knitters!** York Hospital A&E Department have made an appeal for knitted hats for adults. Many patients are suffering extreme cold and a quick way to warm them up is to give them a hat to wear. These can be dropped off at the hospital or sent in the post addressed for the attention of Laura at the A&E Department. A good way to use up all your part balls of wool and help someone in their recovery. A reminder that we are still asking for knitted or crochet poppies for our Remembrance Day displays. If you need a pattern please contact Barbara Grinham who is also collecting finished poppies.

Sadly, no news yet about restarting our Jumble Sales but watch this space

Please remember to wear masks, wash hands and keep your distance

And Keep Smiling

Penny Bean and all the Sheriff Hutton Jumbles –

Turning cast offs into cash

01347 878392

## Playgroup News

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

With children leaving us in September to start school we will have more free spaces so don't hesitate to get in touch we would love your child to join us!

Playgroup is a great place to send your child and makes the transition to school very easy for the children who attend here. Please contact Angela on 07717 799646 or visit the website for availability.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the staff for their hard work and commitment to playgroup.

## 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! We have a Facebook page to, called 'Sheriff Hutton Parents, Toddlers and Babies Group', so keep an eye on there for further updates as well!

Jess Dunford Chairperson

 <p><b>Dawsonbuild</b>  <b>T: 01347 878 186</b>  <b>M: 0772 769 4428</b></p> <p>Extensions          Conversions          Renovation          New Build          Conservatories          Driveways          Repairs</p>	<p><b>STEPHEN SHIPLEY</b>          T/A D R Shipley</p> <p><b>Builders and Contractors</b></p> <p><b>6, Warwick Close, Sheriff Hutton</b>  <b>Tel : 01347 879 173</b>  <b>Mob : 07850 783 842</b></p>	<p><b>EDWARD HULL</b>  <b>BUILDER and CONTRACTOR</b></p> <p><b>Tel : 01347 878 354</b>  <b>Mob : 07702 661 664</b></p> <p><b>DAVID HULL</b>  <b>Plumbing and Heating</b>  <b>Mob : 07715 943 381</b></p>
<p><b>PETER BEAN BUILDING</b></p> <p>Farm Building : Concreting          Home Extension &amp; Repairs          Tarmacadam and Block Paving          Excavation and Drainage</p> <p><b>Tel : 01347 879 107</b>  <b>or 07836 623 188</b></p>	<p><b>Aerial Services – York.co.uk</b>          Fed up with poor reception? ...  <b>Still running off your Old Aerial System?....</b>  <b>We offer :</b> Fully Insured professional service          Your property left clean and tidy          We supply our own vacuums!  <b>Call Steve on 01904 238 107 or</b>  <b>07972181025</b>  <b>steve@aerialservices.uk.com</b></p>	<p><b>DUO HANDIMAN</b></p> <p>Handyman services          to the Sheriff Hutton area</p> <p><b>No job too small</b>          Please call Michael Binnersley  <b>Tel : 07977 226 595</b></p>
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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 March

Fri	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting via zoom
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Gardening Club meeting via Zoom <i>An Introduction to Japanese Gardens by Andy Bolton</i> : non-members are welcome –see inside for details
Fri	26 <sup>th</sup>	10 – 12 noon	Super-mobile Library in the Village Hall car park

## Dates to Note

Mar	8 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Tennis Club AGM via zoom
Mar	20 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Bowls Club AGM in the Clubhouse

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