

**March 2024**

**The next visit will be on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 10am - 12 noon.**

For more information about library services visit [www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraries) or download our library App. Search for: North Yorkshire Libraries in the App Store of Google Play

### Stillington Surgery and Patient Participation Group (Stillington PPG)

Last year largely entailed PPG members getting to know their roles, meeting Surgery Practice Management and GPs, understanding a bit more about the additional support services available from the Surgery, and suggesting and agreeing some minor changes to Surgery ways of working, and sharing information. The PPG meets four times per year, with the main aim of working in partnership with the Surgery Practice team and GPs to improve services for Surgery patients. While this is recognised as a tough challenge given the already excellent service provided, the PPG will do their best to represent all patients and help make the service even better.

There are ten volunteers on Stillington PPG from the surrounding villages of Huby, Sheriff Hutton, Stillington and Sutton on the Forest. Should you wish to make suggestions of ways to improve the Surgery service, you can either write directly to Stillington Surgery or email to [stillington.admin@nhs.net](mailto:stillington.admin@nhs.net) or to PPG members at [stillingtonppg@btinternet.com](mailto:stillingtonppg@btinternet.com)

Currently, the Stillington Surgery Website is undergoing a major overhaul. We will advise you through one of our intended, more regular communications when this updated website is available. The website will include detailed information about the Surgery, and will have a PPG section with copies of minutes of our meetings, terms of reference, members, aims and code of conduct.

The PPG look forward to sharing more information about additional support services available from the Surgery, waiting room information programmes, vaccination programmes, NHS app use, encouraging PPG membership from a wider age group, remote pharmacy prescription reviews, meeting dates and AGM, or any other appropriate Surgery information in future communications.

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## Sheriff Hutton Bowls Club Bingo at the Village Hall

**£100 Major Prize and many others including meat and confectionary**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Open 7pm - Eyes Down 7.30pm

Refreshments provided in a relaxed and fun atmosphere!

Future date to note. 19<sup>th</sup> April

[illegible]

## Parish Council

The Parish Council met on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2024. Councillors present at the meeting were Marcus Oxendale (Acting Chairman), Sally Wright, Dave Smith, Sam Warriner and Phillip Lazenby. Louise Pink, Clerk. Four members of the public (two for part of meeting only).

### **The following new planning applications were received for consideration this month:**

ZE24/00049/73A Spring Cottage, East End, Sheriff Hutton

Variation of condition 02 of planning approval 22/00504/HOUSE dated 17.07.2022 to allow variation from the approved drawings (retrospective application).

Decision - Sheriff Hutton Parish Council object to the above planning application, on the following grounds: the street scene view clearly shows a wall separate to the extension wall which is the original party wall separating the two properties. This has been removed in the actual build and the extension wall has become the dividing line. This is a clear breach of the original plan. The plans show no resemblance to the ones originally passed so it has not been built in accordance with the original planning application. As such, the window, instead of being shielded by the dividing party wall, has now a full view into the neighbour's property. The extension is not in keeping with the housing in the area, especially within a conservation area.

ZE23/00437/FUL Land at Cornborough Road, Sheriff Hutton

Change of use of former agricultural building for use as (small breeds) dog breeding kennel and domestic storage, together with an extension to the building to provide toilets and external alterations, including the installation of insulated acoustic sheeting to the exterior of the building (part retrospective), and the change of use of agricultural land to dog exercise area.

Decision – Sheriff Hutton Parish Council object to the above planning application on the same grounds as those issued previously, plus additional concerns.

Planning permission for the dog breeding kennels expired on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2023, as no part of the planning permission has been started on site or any of the conditions adhered to, this planning application must be fully resubmitted. This is not a retrospective application.

Not all neighbours have been consulted on this application by North Yorkshire Council. On the planning application, it states there is no parking. However, a huge area of hard-core has already been put down covering approximately an acre of land which could easily park a large number of vehicles. Partly due to this new area that has been stoned over, there are drainage issues that has led to an increase of run-off to the fields below. The applicant states that the run-off goes into the gutter. However, this is above the site and therefore run-off cannot go into it. They also state that any run-off goes into a soak away, where is this soak away, when was it put in and did it follow any building regulations?

When the kennels were given permission, it was on the proviso that there was no residential element to the site. This is no longer true as the applicant has lived on site over a year. The planning application states that there are no employees on site. However, the whole family has been living on site for over a year now. The planning application states that the opening hours are irrelevant. However, one of the conditions when planning permission was granted was that there were stricter hours in particular for the dog walking area. There are no details given for the times of use. Is there any containment/fencing planned? There are no details given about how the dogs will be contained. Dogs are often roaming free into the nearby fields.

The application states that it cannot be seen from the road or public footpath. However, a public footpath runs right through the centre of the site. Therefore, the site can be fully seen by the public. Prior to planning permission, a noise survey was carried out. However, this has now been ruled invalid by the changes to the design of the barn, with a large new opening fitted with a roller door, which has no soundproofing whatsoever.

The site is not being used for dog breeding. All dogs on site are kept in wooden kennels outside. The shed only appears to be used for storage for the number of businesses running from the site. Planning permission for the barn was granted on the proviso that no new openings were made again. This has not been adhered too. How can this shed be made into a dog breeding centre when there is not a single window for natural light within the barn, are the dogs to live in darkness, their whole lives?

Why is there a need for four toilets? If this is simply to be used for anyone visiting the site surely this is excessive, at present a Portaloo is used on site, if this works now, why is there a need for a further extension?

*Continued on next page.....*

The Parish Council query what the need is for a domestic storage when the site should have no domestic usage. Since the first application, there are thousands more dogs that require rehoming. Therefore, the Parish Council query why there is even a requirement for a puppy farm. There are constant noise issues on site with dog's barking at all hours, with no effort made to stop them. NYC has been made aware of this but no action has been taken. Previous surveys have been used when the building is now materially different. An example being, the door that has been installed is not sound proofed and cannot be.

This application seems to be an effort to legitimise the illegal use of the site for domestic usage.

**The following planning decisions were received this month:**

23/00288/FUL                      Land Rear of Park View, Finkle Street, Sheriff Hutton

Erection of 2no. detached dwellings with detached double garages and associated parking, landscaping and formation of vehicular access.

APPROVED.

ZE23/01550/MFUL                Southern Unit, Cornborough Road, Sheriff Hutton

Erection of an agricultural building for the handling of cattle and attached feed store following demolition of existing building.

APPROVED.

ZE23/06942/HOUSE            Catesby House, 23a The Croft, Sheriff Hutton

Erection of entrance porch to the north elevation and single storey orangery to the rear following removal of existing conservatory.

APPROVED.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

We are very pleased to have now had a good uptake for volunteers willing to take part in formulating a Neighbourhood Plan, for the future development of Sheriff Hutton, and thank all those who have offered their help. We, of course, are very open to any new volunteers.

The Parish Council are now considering how we can take this further, and will be in touch with all those who volunteered shortly. If you are interested in joining the group but would like further information, please contact the Chairman, Councillor Penny Bean on 01347 878392 for a chat.

### **Parking on Verges**

The Parish Council would again like to remind residents and their visitors not to park on the verges throughout the village. Many of the verges are being churned up due to vehicles parking on them.

### **Next Meeting**

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 at 7.30pm, in the Miss Ward Room at the Methodist Church. 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.

### **Salsa Dancing**

I have completed salsa dance lessons in Crayke before and after Christmas, and really enjoyed it. I am seeing how much interest there would be to run a six-week course of salsa dancing at the Sheriff Hutton Village Hall.

I have received quite a bit of interest from Facebook, however, in order to make it viable and enjoyable, more leaders are required. Call me if interested, or for any further information.

Fiona Antrobus 07526 371624 or Jessie James 07515 896534

### **Village Ramble**

This month's ramble will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. The route is currently being planned for a circular walk of about 5 miles in our beautiful countryside. After the walk, there will be a sociable pub lunch and time to catch up with friends, old and new. We meet at the Village Hall car park at 9.30am. New ramblers are always welcome and if you do not have a car, lifts will be available.

### **Friends of Sheriff Hutton Village Hall 200 Club**

The winning numbers in the February Draw, winning £25 each, are: 10, 38, 146, 232, 240. Congratulations!

## Swift Awareness

**Come and find us at Sheriff Hutton Village Market, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30 to 1.30pm.**

These summer visiting birds are in decline. If you are interested in encouraging swifts, come and talk to us at the Swift Awareness stall, indoors at the March Village Market. We will have information on swift boxes, swift bricks for building projects and swifts in general, including some wonderful children's leaflets.

It is also planned that Jonathan Pomroy, local Swift expert for Swift Conservation, will be with us during the morning. Come along and say hello to us during the market.

Any queries contact Sally on 01347 878272.

In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

Sheriff Hutton Village Hall

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – doors open at 7.00pm

**Come and enjoy an evening with the Yorkshire Auction Houses celebrity auctioneer  
ANGUS ASHWORTH**

Tea and Cake included

£10 per ticket available to purchase from

Sheriff Hutton P.O. or Bonnie on 01347 878794

## Sheriff Hutton Ladies Group

We had a great afternoon at our latest Ladies Group meeting with Sue Woodcock, who writes for the Yorkshire Post. Sue regaled us with her life story, from being in the Police force and numerous choirs, to potholing, to name but a few of her exploits. There was much laughter to be heard.

**Our next meeting, our AGM, is at 1pm Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**, at Sheriff Hutton Village Hall. We will be having a shared buffet lunch, so would be grateful if members could bring a contribution.

Thank you in anticipation.

The annual subscriptions (£15/member), are also due on the same day and can be paid by cheque, cash or BACS, details are available. We will be collecting the subs at the end of the meeting.

If anyone would like information about any of our meetings, please get in touch with:

Barbara Grinham 01347878476

Mob 07811 259184

Linda Turner 01347878037

Mob 07453 393286

Many Thanks, Barbara Grinham (Chair), Sheriff Hutton Ladies Group

## Message from the Jumblies

We are up and running for 2024!

It's always a bit of a struggle to get back into the routine after a four-month break, but our first jumble sale of the year was a mammoth affair. Masses of jumble, a brilliant cake stall and refreshments and a huge crowd of people all eager to scoop up the bargains. The first quarter of an hour was a bit of a crush with lots of new customers, but this soon quietened leaving the dedicated "jumbliers" to browse in a more leisurely way. The total raised was £2,743 which was split between the Parish Church and the Bowling Club. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed by donating cakes, prizes and jumble to benefit both these organisations.

**Our next sale will be on 16<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm**, to raise money for the Primary School PTFA. We will be happy to receive donations of good condition jumble, books, toys, bric-a-brac and particularly clothes, which are our biggest sellers. We will be at the Village Hall on the morning of the sale between 8.30 - 11am to receive your donations. There is a possibility that we will be able to accept them on the Friday night, but we will not know until nearer the time. Please check with a Jumbly beforehand.

The Bowling Club will again be providing refreshments to raise money for their club funds to pay for running costs.

Penny Bean (01347 878392) Sheriff Hutton Jumblies. Turning cast offs into cash

## **Sheriff Hutton Nature Group**

### **Report on the Cropton Beaver Project Talk.**

We had a brilliant evening for our first talk of 2024, when we welcomed Rachel Midgley of Forestry England, who spoke about the Cropton Beaver Project. It was really interesting to hear about the changes in the landscape and the environment over time due to beaver engineering, and about the increase in size of their family group. We were entertained by great photography and videos of the beavers at work and of local wildlife sharing their habitat.

### **Our next evening talks with an update on the AGM timings.**

#### **March 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 AGM, followed by a talk: Twenty Years of Bird Surveying at Strensall Common**

- **AGM 6.30pm** start to approximately 7.45pm, members only.
- **From 8pm:** Twenty years of Bird Surveying at Strensall Common with Nigel Boatman.

Nigel is the current organiser of the annual bird survey of Strensall Common. Using a wealth of historical data, Nigel's talk is based on an article written for the MOD and their magazine, in relation to conservation on their sites and summarizing the trends for eight birds of interest; heathland habitat specialists and/or red-listed species of conservation concern.

On this occasion we plan to have tea and coffee after the AGM and prior to the talk. So, if you are coming for the talk only, please arrive at around 7.45pm. £3 for non- members.

### **Membership Renewal**

Membership will renew in April this year after the annual fee is confirmed at the March AGM. New members very welcome. If you would like any more information on the Sheriff Hutton Nature Group or would like a copy of the evening programme, please contact Sally on 01347 878272 or email [shnaturegroup@gmail.com](mailto:shnaturegroup@gmail.com)

### **Let's Keep Our Village Clean For All**

It's depressing to see so much dog mess on verges and sometimes footpaths in the village. I notice a lot on Main Street, Church End and North Garth Lane. I take extra bags to be able to pick up after others' dogs as well as my own. It's only the minority of owners that don't seem to care about it, but if you can look after and walk a dog, you can clear up after it, using the bins provided around the village. Please let's keep the village clean for all. A concerned resident, thank you.

### **Gardening Club**

This month, we're looking forward to Don Witton's talk on National Collections of Great Britain, including euphorbias. Euphorbia fans like me will want to make sure they are at the Village Hall on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

Remember to come a little early if you want to pick up your spud and bucket for the club's annual potato growing competition, which is also open to non-members.

### **Gardening tips**

Once the days lengthen, the soil starts to warm up and plants begin their journey, especially the weeds. When conditions are dry enough, hoeing is the quickest and most efficient way of controlling the annual weeds, so get them now before they seed for less of them later. Some have a rapid reproduction cycle, a matter of survival for them and irritation for us.

Perennial weeds need to be removed, as any part left in the ground will regrow. As winter pruning and deciduous planting is out of the way by the end of March, remember that shrubs flowering from now until June, need their prune just after flowering. There will be more daylight hours available to be out and doing whatever you want to do in your patch.

Spring is a lovely fresh time; enjoy!

## **Art Open Studios 2024**

Some arty dates for your diary in Sheriff Hutton and your local area. This year we are excited to say we have a lot more coming your way, and are looking forward to welcoming you all to our studios to see work in progress, chat to the artists and see our work for sale. As usual, you will be given the warmest of welcomes.

This year we also have Calum Balding, who is a painter, joining us locally in Thornton-le-Clay for NYOS. The following open studios will be taking place in 2024.

### **York Open Studios**

- Preview Evening - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April
- Main dates - 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> April
- Taking part - Justine Warner and Patrick Smith on West End, Sheriff Hutton

### **North Yorkshire Open Studios**

- Preview Evening - 31<sup>st</sup> May
- Main dates - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> June
- Taking part - Justine Warner and Patrick Smith on West End, Steve Page on East End, Sheriff Hutton, and new for this year Calum Balding in Thornton-le-Clay Village Hall.

### **North Yorkshire Winter Open Studios**

- Main dates - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- More details to follow nearer the time.

Check out our websites and social media for more information. A list of all artists taking part can be seen on YOS and NYOS websites. So many amazing artists to see!

Justine, Steve, Patrick, Calum

## **Sheriff Hutton Bridge Cricket Club**

Only eight weeks to go until the start of the season!

However, if this rain doesn't stop soon there won't be a dry wicket anywhere. There is no work that can be done on grass at all at the moment.

Nets are progressing well with Seniors and Juniors getting good numbers. Many of the juniors are involved in Pathways or Hub development sessions; there is also a bit of excitement around a few youngsters who will graduate to senior cricket this season. We are also pleased to announce that following our signing of Manan (who by the way is hammering runs in the Indian version of our county system), we have secured two more good signings; Dean Coote from Malton CC and Jonty Moorhouse from Ouseburn. Both potential 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> team players who will do well in "The Bridge" family. They are both very welcome.

On the sponsorship funding we are again delighted to announce that following RAP, our main sponsor, we have added to our list and welcome Portakabin, Browns and Ashtons. KITE will be our main shirt supplier.

We have put a call out for more volunteer help on the grounds and help with players teas throughout the season, if you think that you could help, please get in touch, we are very friendly!

## **Children's Christmas Shoe Box Appeal and IDAS York**

After the success of last year, alongside the Childrens' Christmas Shoe Box Appeal, our merry band is reaching out and supporting more local groups. Our aim is still to support children in need, just extend what we are already doing, so there is no change to our focus or what we collect, collate and gift. IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services), is a Charity that started in York in the 1970's, and since then has grown, providing much needed services and refuges across Yorkshire, sadly.

They reached out to us last year and we were able to gift a few items, but this year we would like to share more of what we create and gather. So, **calling all knitters**; if you can make simple hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, finger puppets or knitted dolls and cuddly toys, we would love to hear from you. It would be wonderful to offer a little Christmas cheer to children in these desperate circumstances. More information will follow, there is plenty of time at the moment, but please get in touch if you can help, so we can plan and hopefully, really make a difference.

Many thanks in advance for any help offered. Melanie 07721 891758

## **Sheriff Hutton History Group**

At the March meeting of the Sheriff Hutton History Group, we will welcome Dr Kate Giles, who will be talking to us about the Pickering Murals, the medieval wall paintings discovered during restoration work in St Peter and St Paul's Church in Pickering. These extraordinary relics are one of the best (there are very few surviving early ecclesiastical interior decorations), and they portray a vivid idea of how many church interiors may have looked prior to the destructive events of the Reformation.

The meeting will be on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. Entrance is free to members (please note) and £3 for visitors. As usual light refreshments will be provided after the talk.

### **Advance Notice**

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April we will be holding our Annual General meeting in the Miss Ward Room of the Methodist Church starting at 7pm. All are welcome to come to the AGM and talk to the Committee Members about their roles, or maybe join the History Group, and help us support our vital work in researching and preserving the history of our village.

After the AGM, at about 7.30pm we will be going on a virtual tour around the village, using, pictures, artefacts and memorabilia from our archive store, to peer into village secrets and historical events, and to pose the question by means of a light-hearted quiz, "how well do you really know our village?"

This should be a great opportunity for an informal meeting and enjoyable gathering of friends and fellow villagers, and a chance to enjoy some light refreshments such as cheese nibbles, cakes and non-alcoholic drinks. For further information, contact Meg on 01347 878136 or Linda at [linda@turner.stargate.co.uk](mailto:linda@turner.stargate.co.uk) or Peter Brown at [peterbrown222.brown@btinternet.com](mailto:peterbrown222.brown@btinternet.com)

## **Appeal for Knitted Poppies**

It may seem a long time until Remembrance Day but we would like to get a head start on restocking our supply of knitted poppies for the Remembrance Garden in The Square. Some of our stock is past its prime so, we are appealing for help, and would be most grateful to receive **red and purple** poppies for the display. If you need a pattern, please contact Barbara Grinham on 878476.

Many thanks, Penny Bean, Barbara Grinham and Margaret Frank

## **Sheriff Hutton Village Market Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

The first market back after the winter break and the team are more than ready to bring you another year of excellent local businesses trading at our fantastic monthly market. With over 50+ stalls including many newcomers, the community led cafe, indoor and outdoor seating, and this month we also welcome North Yorkshire Rotters, who offer plenty of freebies along with advice on eco living, managing food on a budget as well as composting tips, equipment plus much more.

We also have a fantastic little charity who'll be on hand to offer advice on Swifts, one of the fastest birds in our skies. Learn where to best place a nest box, why they won't come near your bird feeders and how you can do your bit to protect this species.

Our markets run from 10.30-1.30pm, usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, between March to December inclusive. Sometimes the dates can vary slightly so, do be sure to put the following 2024 dates in your diary:

**17<sup>th</sup> Mar, 21<sup>st</sup> Apr, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> Jun, 21<sup>st</sup> Jul, 11<sup>th</sup> Aug, 15<sup>th</sup> Sep, 20<sup>th</sup> Oct, 17<sup>th</sup> Nov, 15<sup>th</sup> Dec**

So, we're here for your food (deli, bakery, charcuterie, cheesemonger, fishmonger, preserves, greengrocer, international food, ice cream, confectionary), drink (juice, gin and rum), art, craft, beauty, household interiors, pet treats and paraphernalia, plants, the choice is endless. If you haven't visited before, do pop down for a browse, a chat, or simply just a nosey at what goes on at the market. It's always a great way to bump into people and while away your Sunday morning!

Meanwhile, as always, we welcome new volunteers, so if you're able to spare a few hours to help set up/dismantle, or assist with car parking duty, please contact us [mail@shvm.co.uk](mailto:mail@shvm.co.uk) 01347 878619

The Sheriff Hutton Village Market Team

## Notices for St. Helen's

Firstly, a massive thank you to the Jumblies for all their hard work over two days in February. We shared the Jumble Sale takings with the Bowls Club and our share is about £1300, a fantastic amount. Thank you to everyone who helped whether it was baking, generally helping or the cake stall, the tombola or looking after the Jumblies, plus all those who came of course.

### Services for March are:

- 10<sup>th</sup> March, Mothers' Day service at 10.30am at the Methodist Chapel. This will be Holy Communion and will be led by Steve
- 24<sup>th</sup> March, 10am at St Helen's. This will be a morning worship service, led by Margaret
- 31<sup>st</sup> March, Easter Sunday 10am at St. Helen's. This is a family Holy Communion service led by Rob, and there will be an Easter Egg hunt around the church and churchyard
- Further Good Friday arrangements to come

The church is open at all times. There is a children's pew and a children's activity table. There is also a tea and coffee welcome tray complete with biscuits. Please do come and use our beautiful historic church whether it is to wander, have some space or explore. We have also planted some spring bulbs which should be appearing over the next few weeks. The churchyard is also a lovely area so please do make use of that too; walking dogs, sitting on one of the benches or strolling through.

It's a little out of season now but at the Christmas Celebration in December and on Christmas Day Patrick Smith and Nicky Joy-Smith read out two poems. They really summed up Sheriff and went down very well indeed. The thoughts resonate whatever the season. I thought they were deserving of a wider audience so wanted to include them here, even though we missed the deadlines to get them in an earlier News.

### Pre-amble to poem, by Patrick Smith

So, we are gathered in St. Helens church; for centuries Sheriff Huttoners' have sat in these pews singing hymns and giving thanks, for this is very much a house of worship yet I feel it's much more than this. We come together during the festive season to give and receive presents and remember those we have lost or are far away. Now the best part is the giving and for that we need a parcel, a box, a vessel. Well, I think St. Helens, this historic church, is our parcel containing the wonderful gift of continuity - a touch stone in these difficult times. It can be ecumenical; you may not have faith yet the door is always open to come inside and take a moment's peace in this special place for all. Now we need the wrapping, a special kind that is strong and united and I think the wrapping is you, the villagers emblazoned with the decoration of community, giving and exuding hope.

Now like all good presents wrapped for the tree we need a ribbon or binding something to hold it all together. For the ribbon I suggest people in the village who give freely of their time for little or no reward to enhance our community and you all know who you are; the Jumblies going from strength to strength raising money for charities and community groups or our fantastic village store and post office who stepped up during the covid crisis to ensure those who were vulnerable in the village were catered for often at some personal risk.

All the societies which are organised and run by volunteers to bring cultural wellbeing and a much-needed social aspect to our lives. The village market every month is a massive tour de force of logistics and enterprise. I am a very proud stall holder in this and feel very chuffed when market traders comment to me how fantastic and well organised it is with the helping with unloading of goods and stall set up for all who attend.

Our public house closed during covid for extended periods yet reborn producing much loved take away meals for villagers to enjoy during those bleak days. During a recent bout of flu, I am minded of a neighbour coming round in the dead of night emblazoned with head torch wielding a much-appreciated flask of hot toddy better than any Lemsip, I can tell you!

So, as I come to read my annual Christmas verse these are the musings that resonate in my mind!!

*Continued on next page.....*



## Christmas in Sheriff Hutton by Nicky Joy-Smith

The travellers headed north-east on a cold and wintery day  
They followed a bright and shining star – towards the hills (they say).

This tired and weary family had lost their home to war  
Seeking warmth and shelter – finding comfort in what they saw.  
At the foot of the hills, a village, surrounded by twinkling light,  
Drew them into its heart with places to stay,  
And sanctuary – on hearing their plight.

It's Christmas time – the season when Christian love is renewed,  
We retell the amazing story of a family in need of some food,  
And a quietly labouring mother, giving birth in a stable outside,  
Her beloved child came into the world with a simple and rustic pride.

The message is oh very simple,  
“The riches in life are complete, without palace or diamonds, this baby  
Born a Prince with a mission of Peace”.

Two thousand years since Jesus was born,  
Seeking peace is still on our minds  
Remember the plight of the family who stayed in our village  
And the importance of being kind.

Merry Christmas and let us be thankful  
For the love and the joy in this place  
And to keep sharing the gift of kindness  
As we continue to strive for world peace!

Thank you to Nicky and Patrick for these really lovely thoughts and for sharing them.

And finally, **date for your diaries; Terrington Choir** are coming to sing a medley of songs on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June in the evening, time to be confirmed. Entrance is free, with drinks and nibbles and canapes provided. This looks to be a lovely summer evening's entertainment so please put the date in your diary. More details to follow next month.

Please contact Jill Donaldson Hodges on 878595 or 07968 052118 if you have any queries.

## St Leonard's Farlington

By the time you read this, the spring flowers in the churchyard should be offering a welcome blaze of colour, unless of course, a late winter finally arrives. Our first two services are in Lent, but we finish the month with a celebration of Easter on Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Services in March:

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mothering Sunday
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Easter Day with Holy Communion (BCP)

### Mothering Sunday falls in the middle of Lent.

The day has two other names. One is *Mid-Lent Sunday*, the other is *Refreshment Sunday*, a day of respite from fasting halfway through Lent. Mothering Buns are a speciality for Mothering Sunday, usually eaten after breakfast. We will have them for the refreshments after the service.

Another tradition is to present mothers with a bunch of violets on the day. It remains to be seen just how many violets will be available in our churchyard on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Marton Church

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved our Silver Eco Church Award! The snowdrops have been wonderful this year, and the daffodils are looking promising. We have three services planned for March:

- Our Celtic Communion on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 3pm
- A special service at 3pm on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March led by Harold Mytum
- An Easter Communion on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March at the later time of 6pm.

As the clocks change on Easter Sunday morning, all our services from then on will also move to 6pm for British Summer Time. On Easter Sunday morning a few of us will convene for an Easter Dawn Vigil. Weather permitting, we will see the sunrise shortly after 6:30am, and hopefully watch the sunlight pouring through the east window (above the altar), and then finally through the little coloured stained-glass window in the eaves that faces east. Not a service, just a time of quiet reflection and celebration.

As plans evolve for our History Day in Marton Church on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August, I have had such an interesting time meeting people with a family connection with Marton and Moxby. A number of stories have centred around weddings so I hope to put together a simple display. If you have any stories, photos or other documents that you think we might be interested in, relating to any aspect of history in the parish, do please contact Caroline on 01347 878242 or [martonintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:martonintheforest@gmail.com)

## The UCCC Spring Fling Afternoon Tea Party Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm An Invitation.

We are delighted to invite everyone aged 70 and over, living in Sheriff Hutton, Lilling and Stittenham, plus their partner (of any age), to a celebratory **Spring Tea Party in the Village Hall, on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm**, together with a free raffle and musical entertainment. We will provide a warm welcome and afternoon tea, served to you by our friendly volunteers. The committee will have been delivering invitations to as many households as possible at the end of February, if you haven't received yours by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, and you would like to attend, please contact Caroline at [cjhunt.home@gmail.com](mailto:cjhunt.home@gmail.com) or 01347 878242.

We are happy to provide lifts to/from the party and are also offering 'teas out' to anyone who is unable to attend due to illness. The annual UCCC party has been a great community event for many years, so whether you are planning to come as a guest or willing volunteer, we look forward to welcoming you!

## The Methodist Church

### Sunday services in March:

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Own arrangement Service
10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Rev John Hayward (Communion) United Village Churches.
17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	David Marwood
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Palm Sunday Rev John Hayward United Village Churches
31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Easter Sunday Rev John Trevenna (Communion)

### Good Friday Service 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm in the Parish Church.

### Wednesdays

9.30am	Morning prayers and quiet meditation in the Chapel
10.00am	The Miss Ward room opens for coffee, tea and biscuits, everyone very welcome to come and chat.
11.15am	Lent study group meet on 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> of March
12 noon	Soup and Bread after the study if you can stay.

### David down Under

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm in the Miss Ward room. David Marwood will reminisce on his month in Australia visiting distant members of his family. He will also show the places they took him to see.

A very warm welcome awaits anyone who would like to come.

## The First Step...

Dear Friends,

Words come more easily sometimes than others. There are those occasions when we seem to know exactly what to say or what we want to say, and we find ourselves able to articulate coherently and meaningfully. There are those other moments when we feel stuck, and we struggle to find any fluency or way forward. If this is true of our conversations, then perhaps you also experience something similar if and when you begin a crossword puzzle. There are times when I scan the clues and start saying to myself, "I can't do any of these." Equally, there are times when the first few solutions come so easily that my response is more along the lines of, "Well, this isn't going to take long."

The strange thing is that, when the first few answers come in no time, I often find myself getting stuck later, and really stuck, whereas, when I have more difficulty getting into the puzzle in the first place, I tend to get further and even sometimes finish without cheating. I do wonder whether this is a psychological trick I am playing on myself, or whether I am drawing an accurate conclusion here. It may not always be the case, but it certainly feels sometimes that the more challenging the first step feels, the more straightforward matters can become afterwards and the further the progress. We do talk about "breaking the back" of a task, after all.

Puzzles do not only come in the form of crosswords and sudokus, of course. Exam papers, application forms, questionnaires and other documents can often pose the same challenge. There are times when our minds go blank. There are times when the responses, the thoughts and the ideas flow, and then there are the issues we are confronting, the choices and decisions before us, which may have significant consequences for us and for others around us. Sometimes we feel confident about the way forward, but sometimes we become overwhelmed by the questions asked of us, even to the point of inertia.

The season of Lent depicts for us a time when the disciples around Jesus learned and discovered on the move. In their travelling together to Jerusalem, they find themselves puzzling their way through to new insights and deeper perceptions of what it means for them to be them, amid all that seems clear and all that appears enigmatic. In all of this perhaps, it is worth reminding ourselves of the wisdom of Rumi, the thirteenth century Persian poet: **"The path only appears with the first step."**

David Bidnell (Methodist Minister)

## Bowls Club

Thank you to the hard work of the Jumbles and all who supported the February Jumble sale in aid of the bowling club and the Village Church. Hopefully we will be opening the green Monday April 8<sup>th</sup>, this date is provisional due to the weather, as we never know what it will be like between now and April, but fingers crossed. During the winter months we have been playing at Ryedale Indoor Bowls Club on a Wednesday afternoon, and have had a good turnout each week, but I think we are all looking forward to playing outside again and hoping the weather will be kind to us this season. For those who would like to join us, we have social bowling on Monday afternoons 2-4pm, Tuesday evening 6.30 until dusk. Ryedale Vets. League matches are played on Wednesday afternoons 2-4pm. If no matches are scheduled, Wednesday afternoons will be for social bowling and internal matches.

We are always happy to welcome new members.

For further information please contact Cherry 07789 326664 or email: [sheriffhuttonbc@outlook.com](mailto:sheriffhuttonbc@outlook.com)

## Puzzle Exchange

The next exchange is **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March** in the refreshments room of the Village Hall, 10 - 12noon. Tea, Coffee and cake are available. Everyone is welcome to exchange a jigsaw or two or have a cuppa and a chat.

Thank you everyone that attends for supporting this fundraiser. We were a bit apprehensive about starting this new venture back in April 2023, but it is proving very popular especially over the winter months. We started with just 20 jigsaws available to exchange, but nearly a year later we (at the last count) have 135 jigsaws to choose from, so there should be a jigsaw for everyone.

We have raised the following in 2024; January £34.50, February £102.20.

Since we started in April 2023, we have raised a total of £430, so once again, thank you.

## Collective Village Oil Buying Group.

Just to advise, the Village Oil Buying Group and in addition anyone who wants to join in from Sheriff Hutton, Lilling, Whenby, Farlington and Stittenham, that the next oil order is planned for:

**Estimated delivery between April 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Order cut-off Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Just for your diaries the remaining estimated delivery dates for 2024 would be:

- Late August
- Late November
- Late January 2025

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 is run by volunteers purely for the convenience, and to provide savings, for villagers. It was initially set up many years ago buying heating oil as a group for Sheriff Hutton and Lilling only. It now includes in addition; Whenby, Farlington and Stittenham.

If you would like to join, please email us at [sheriffhuttonoil@gmail.com](mailto:sheriffhuttonoil@gmail.com) with your name, email, mobile 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 will discuss the price with a number of potential suppliers to get the best price and then let each person know how much their order will cost, and the planned delivery date.

Recently suppliers are finding it difficult to provide an additional 'to fill' option, so it is fine to slightly overestimate your order as long as at least 500 litres can be delivered to ensure you get a fill up.

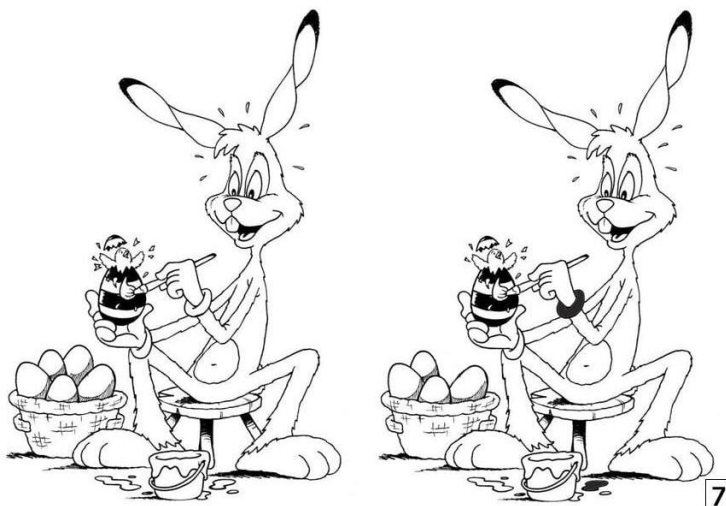
The minimum quantity which can be ordered is 500 litres, but you can order any number of litres above that. Payment can be made to the driver or by phone within 7 days of the delivery.

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

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

**Wishing all our readers a very hoppy Easter!**

(Can you spot the differences?)



## **Why not explore the area we live in this Easter?**

So much history, great countryside, and remember to take your wellies if it keeps raining!  
Lots of walks online, books can be found in the Post Office or join the Village Rambling Group.

Sheriff Hutton has two castles. The first is a Norman motte and bailey structure of which only the mounds remain. It was built by Ansketil de Bulmer on land given to him by William the Conqueror. Hutton stems from the Old English hoh (a projecting piece of land) and tun (a farmstead) while the Sheriff prefix stems from the association with the Bulmer family, Bertram de Bulmer being sheriff of York in 1115.

In 1331 the Neville family received overlordship of Sheriff Hutton and in 1382 John Neville started to build a second castle on a new site in the village. It was completed in 1398. The Neville's were largely responsible for the growth of the village that we see today. Richard Duke of Gloucester (the future Richard III) was placed in the household of Richard Neville. It is likely that Richard III visited Sheriff Hutton several times and in 1485 he created The Council of the North which used to meet in York or Sheriff Hutton. From 1547 the castle seems to have been occupied only spasmodically by the Council and declined since then.







South of the castle is Sheriff Hutton Park. The house was built by Sir Arthur Ingram in 1621, Sir Arthurs's main house being Temple Newsom near Leeds. In 1637 the hall went to his third son Sir Thomas who removed large quantities of stone from the castle to build stables and a brewhouse (the Rangers House). Thus began the final decline of the castle. In the reign of Charles II, the house was sold to the Thompson family. Originally the house was Jacobean in its architecture. This house still survives but about one foot inside the present Queen Anne exterior built in 1732.

The earliest clear reference to the existence of a church is a gift to St Mary's Abbey York by Sir Nigel Fossard, who died in 1120, of the Church of St Helen and the Holy Cross.

There is a small window above the west door that may pre-date 1100. The Norman building of magnesian limestone ashlar, thought to be re-used blocks from York's Roman walls, comprise the tower, nave and chancel, all later extended when the four chantry chapels were built in the C15th for the manor-holding families of the Nevilles, Gowers, Wythams and Dacres.

There are many references to the Plantagenet connections with Sheriff Hutton Castle including the Sun in Splendour of Edward IV and Neville and Dacre shields in the stained glass, much of it damaged at the Reformation. There is a tomb of Sir Edmund Thweng, who died at the Battle of Stirling in 1344 and the alabaster tomb of Edward, Prince of Wales, son of Richard III and Anne Neville.

There are furnishings from nine centuries including pews from Stuart, Georgian and Victorian periods. The churchyard is managed to allow the wealth of wild flowers to develop in the Spring and the interesting range of grave markers is a respectful place for families and visitors.

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## Regular Activities

Sun	10.00am	Morning Service	Parish Church but check in church for details			
	10.30am	Morning Service	Methodist Church			
Mon				7.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Tues	9.15am	Pilates	Village Hall	12.30pm	Luncheon club	Village Hall
	10.30am	Pilates	Village Hall	7.00pm	Circuit Training	Village Hall
				8.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Wed	9.30am	Yoga	Village Hall			
	10.00am	Drop-in for Coffee	Miss Ward Room			
	10.00am	Ladies Tennis	Tennis Club			
Thurs	9.45am	Babes & Toddlers	Village Hall			

## Additional Activities in March

Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	SH Nature Group AGM, Members only, in the Miss Ward Room Methodist Church
		8.00pm	SH Nature Group talk on Twenty Years of Bird Surveying at Strensall Common, by Nigel Boatman, open to all, in the Miss Ward Room, Methodist Church
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	10-12noon	Puzzle exchange and coffee morning in the Refreshment Room of the Village Hall
Sat	9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-3.30pm	Spinning Group meets in the Miss Ward Room Methodist Church
	9 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	UCCC Spring Fling for the over 70s in the Village Hall
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	SH Ladies Group AGM, existing and new members only, Village Hall
Thur	14 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	David Down Under by David Marwood, in the Miss Ward Room Methodist Church
	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting, in the Miss Ward Room Methodist Church
Sat	16 <sup>th</sup>	2-4pm	Jumbles Jumble Sale, raising funds for Primary School PTFA, Village Hall
Sun	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-1.30pm	Sheriff Hutton Village Market held at the Village Hall
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	SH Gardening Club, National Collections of Great Britain inc. Euphorbias by Don Witton, Village Hall
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10-12noon	Super mobile library in the Village Hall car park
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Sheriff Hutton Bowling Club Bingo, in the Village Hall
Sat	23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Talk by Angus Ashworth, Yorkshire Auction House, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	History Group Pickering Church Murals in the Village Hall
Thur	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Village Ramble, meet in the Village Hall Car Park

## Dates to Note 2024

Apr	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	SH Nature Group talk on The Forest of Flowers Project, Hubby, Creating a sanctuary for Wildlife, by Alwyn Craven and Tom Hook, Methodist Church
	12 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	York Open Studios preview, Justine Warner and Patrick Smith, West End, Sheriff Hutton
	13/14 <sup>th</sup>	TBC	York Open Studios, Justine Warner and Patrick Smith on West End, Sheriff Hutton
	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	SH Bowling Club Bingo, in the Village Hall
	20/21 <sup>st</sup>	TBC	York Open Studios, Justine Warner and Patrick Smith on West End, Sheriff Hutton
	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30-1.30pm	Sheriff Hutton Village Market held at the Village Hall
	24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	SH History Group AGM, followed by a Virtual Tour Around the Village and Quiz
May	1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	SH Nature Group talk on The Jewel of York, the Tansy Beetle, by Geoff Oxford. Miss Ward Room, Methodist Church
	19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-1.30pm	Sheriff Hutton Village Market held at the Village Hall
	31 <sup>st</sup>	7pm	York Open Studios preview, Justine Warner, Patrick Smith, West End, Sheriff Hutton
Jun	1/2 <sup>nd</sup>	TBC	NY Open Studios, Justine Warner, Patrick Smith on West End, Steve Page on East End, Sheriff Hutton, Calum Balding in Thornton-le-Clay Village Hall.
	8/9 <sup>th</sup>	TBC	NY Open Studios, Justine Warner, Patrick Smith on West End, Steve Page on East End, Sheriff Hutton, Calum Balding in Thornton-le-Clay Village Hall.
	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-1.30pm	Sheriff Hutton Village Market held at the Village Hall
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	TBC	Terrington Choir at St Helen's Church
July	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30-1.30pm	Sheriff Hutton Village Market held at the Village Hall

**To Hire the Village Hall, call 07894 734446 or email [SHVHbookings@gmail.com](mailto:SHVHbookings@gmail.com)**

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**Items for April 2024 Village News must reach the editors no later than March 18<sup>th</sup>**