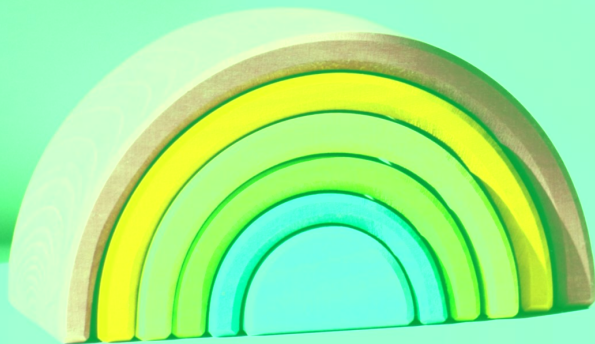
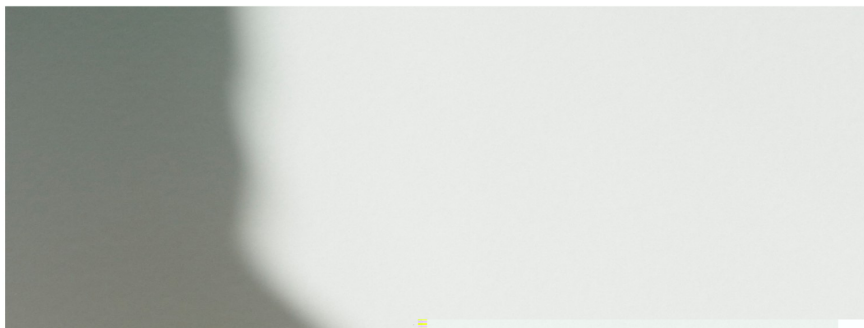


ROUNDAABOUT

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

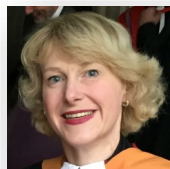
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Ruth's Letter

Dear Friends

I hope that you are all keeping well . Life seems very different at the moment and we are each trying to find our own way to navigate the changes.

I don't know about you but I am not particularly keen on change. It takes me a while to adjust; I find myself unsettled and unsure. There is a lot of change at the moment. Loss of routine, as all the days run into one another, loss of physical touch, of large gatherings, learning to navigate the media platforms. It's difficult to imagine that seven weeks ago most of us thought of Zoom as a vintage ice lolly. Finding ourselves in these circumstances can leave us feeling a little lost. The word of the year seems to be unprecedented, but just because it's overused, doesn't make it any less true. We haven't experienced anything like this before and sometimes we don't know the best thing to do.

However, I would like to remind you that certain things remain unchanged. God, for starters, who remains unchanging in his love and faithfulness. God is not fickle, he does not leave us bereft when the going gets tough; the God we knew before lockdown, is the God who stands by us now and shares our suffering and understands our confusion. Our duty to love God and to love our neighbour, remains unchanged, in fact now it is even more important to hang onto this. Perhaps we can't love God in the way we used to, turning up at Church, either for services or quiet prayer, but we can pray in our homes, we can still read our Bible. Perhaps now that so many other things have stopped happening we can finally give questions of faith the airing they deserve. With this in mind, Ruth Grenfell is holding a time of reflection and questions on a Tuesday evening. The Zoom link is on the website and Facebook page each week. Services continue on Facebook and Zoom at 10:00am on Sundays and 7pm Monday-Saturday. We are running virtual coffee mornings and special services for those who haven't been able to attend a funeral. Keep up to date on Facebook or the St John's website if you can.

Loving our neighbour is different but we still need to do it even if some of the things that we used to do are not possible at the moment. The small loving acts of service take a bit more thought and effort now, but are perhaps more necessary and appreciated than they have been in a long while. The bottom line is that loving our neighbour now involves thinking about how we can reduce the risk of other people catching the virus. Sometimes loving your neighbour might look like watching yet another box set, rather than taking an unnecessary journey. It's counter-intuitive but we are living in a whole new world. Thank God for telephones and video-calling.

We don't know how long this will last. We don't know what the future holds. It's difficult to plan ahead. Please know that as a community you are being prayed for. We will open the Church when it is safe to do so. We won't be rushing and we won't be putting people at risk. In the meantime do try and stay in touch with what the church is able to offer and with one another. Please take care,

Love and prayers

Ruth

*Everyone is Welcome
to join us for
Worship, Praise & Prayer*

Please see centre pages for details of services.

St John's Church is usually open daily from 10am to 4pm.
You are invited to visit, enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this
House of God which has been the spiritual home for
countless numbers over the last 190 years.



Front Cover

Red and yellow and pink and green,
Purple and orange and blue,
I can sing a rainbow,
Sing a rainbow,
Sing a rainbow too.



Refurbished St John's Church

If you wish to book St John's Church for any event please contact

Roundabout Parishes Magazine

Roundabout is printed each month and distributed mainly to subscribers between Nunwick & Littlethorpe, Marton-le-Moor, Copt Hewick, Sharow, Ure Bank, & Ripon. Annual subscriptions may be arranged with the editor or sub-editors (contact details on inside back cover).

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor nor Sharow PCC.

Readers should satisfy themselves of the suitability of goods or services offered by advertisers.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who help create and distribute Roundabout each month.

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

To make arrangements for Baptisms please speak to one of the clergy after Sunday morning service.

Please speak to Ruth to make wedding arrangements or if you would like to discuss funeral details

Revd Ruth Newton Tel: 07805 265171

This month let me tell you about Samer. Samer is a Palestinian Christian who lives in Beit Sahour, very close to Bethlehem. So close in fact that his house is within easy walking distance of the Shepherds' Fields where traditionally, the Angel appeared to the Shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus and to encourage them to follow the star to the manger, not very far away. It is eminently possible that his ancestors were among those very shepherds. His Christian family live in peace and harmony with their Muslim neighbours. Since 1967 this area, the West Bank, has been under the control of the Israeli Government and restrictions on daily life in Beit Sahour have been severe. Israeli settlements have been and continue to be built on Palestinian land and Palestinian dwellings have been declared illegal. Farmers' sheep are harried by settlers' dogs and olive orchards are no longer a source of income as they are frequently being destroyed, on a smaller scale by Israeli settlers and on a wholesale scale by military bulldozers. Newly planted olive trees are uprooted. Supplies of water and electricity to his home are government controlled and both irregular and uncertain. (You can always tell a Palestinian house because it will have water tanks on the roof). Samer is lucky in one respect, he has great artistic skills which he uses to create wonderful mosaics that he can sell to the hundreds of pilgrims of all denominations who flock to the Holy Land each year. His wife Jane works in a nearby hotel and his extended family carve items from olive wood to sell in the co-operative nearby. In March, Covid19 arrived in Jane's hotel, brought, it is thought, by Greek tourists, and everything changed. Overnight, tourism stopped completely, Samer's wife lost her job and no more pilgrims came to buy Samer's mosaics nor the olivewood carvings. Income for Samer, Jane, his children Aram and Joud and his extended family dried up. US aid to Palestine was slashed by President Trump as he sought to ensure acceptance of his "Peace Plan", so there is little or nothing in the way of humanitarian aid reaching these hard-pressed people, and medical facilities remain sketchy. In desperation, Samer wrote to us. He is a proud man, very much a giver and not a receiver, and he thought long and hard before he did so. His objective is to find an overseas market for this truly dazzling series of large mosaics, the 14 Stations of the Cross, which he was proud to show to our party in February. This was a commissioned work, valued at £20,000, taking many months of hard work and dedication, but the deal was reneged upon, leaving Samer without funds as the ongoing costs of food and family continued. It is impossible to do justice to the magnificence of these works of art; the amount of gold alone is simply breath taking. Samer is asking if anyone can think of someone, anywhere, anyhow, who would buy them. Feelers have been put out, but so far, no response is forthcoming. We here do not have the funds, so all we can do is pray that something happens soon to help Samer, his family and the thousands of desperate Palestinians in the Holy Land whose only wish is to live with dignity in peace and safety.

Rosemary

**TO GIVE AN
IDEA OF THE
BEAUTY OF
SAMIR'S
MOSAICS**



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&

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VII



I

Thanks to

for kindly sponsoring Roundabout

I DON'T LIKE IT ONE BIT!

Nobody is happy with this situation: a hitherto unknown virus, ravaging the world. People are dying in care homes and hospitals; the poorest in the countries of the world are unprotected. Some are vulnerable because of living conditions, some because they foolishly don't see the need to physically distance.

So, self isolating in a house with a garden looks like a pretty soft option. Still, I don't like it and I'll tell you what I don't like: It's not being with my dear husband who has been my preferred companion for 46 years; it's not being confronted with all those jobs I said I never had time to do. It's about being labelled elderly and vulnerable. OK, I admit it, I'm 73, so to the world I am elderly and vulnerable. I'm sure many readers will empathise with this: we are used to doing the helping, not being the helped. We have the most wonderful neighbours who, in addition to ordinary shopping, have provided Sunday newspapers, sherry and even horse manure for the garden! They offer but don't force and we are extremely fortunate. We also have a dear person who does the bulk of our shopping, collects prescriptions and the like and stands back from our door with the biggest of smiles. She is also a care worker and I do worry about her.

However, it still grates. I want to be rushing around and looking after other people....I don't want to be elderly and vulnerable. It's a tough lesson but I'm having to learn the grace to accept help from others and not be the giver but the receiver.

So thank you everyone, thank you for your kindness and your help. Just remember, all we elderly, vulnerable people were once the care givers and forgive us if we are a little reluctant to be the care receivers. We are learning.

Ruth G

Jennyruth News

As things stand we are not planning anything for May. We are still operating during the lockdown, but remotely and can still take customer orders, depending on what is requested.



Jennyruth Workshops

A productive workshop where adults with learning disabilities gain confidence, skills and happiness

Jennyruth Workshops Unit 5 Red House Farm Bridge Hewick Ripon HG4 5AY Tel: 01765 606620
email: info@jennyruth.co.uk www.jennyruth.co.uk

News from St John's Bell Tower



replaced by

I don't have anything bell related to put in Roundabout this month, but thought you might like to see some of my photos.

In May 2019, I took part in a Month of Mindfulness, which involved taking a photo each day of something I noticed in the natural world. Whilst we have been in lockdown, I have been inspired to do a . Creating "art" from

things I found on my daily dog walks round Hell Wath. When I was a student in Leeds, Andy Goldsworthy was at the Art College and his approach, now widely copied by children in schools, has stayed with me. It's been interesting to think of ideas based on what I've noticed. The art pieces only take a few minutes to make and are often not there the next day, but it's been great fun to undertake.

During June, the Wildlife Trusts have launched a "30 Days Wild" nature challenge. The Trusts want us to do one wild thing a day: for your health, wellbeing and for the planet. If you'd like to get involved the link is www.wildlifetrusts.org As I am writing this, some of the lockdown restrictions have been eased, but who knows when we'll be back visiting family and friends. Finding things to do, to keep us healthy and happy, has become all the more important and I have certainly appreciated connecting with the natural world.

Best wishes

Bridget

Bridget Taylor-Connor b.connor7621@btinternet.com



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News from Sharow Village Hall

During lockdown there have been no obvious activities taking place at the Village Hall. However Steve has been going down regularly, in accordance with the insurance policy, to check that all is as it should be. He has also been doing some maintenance work – weed killing the drive and around the building and generally doing needy jobs. Kim has been busy on her sewing machine getting bunting ready to decorate the hall for when we can reopen and celebrate.

Just prior to lockdown we discovered (by way of the water rates bill!) that we had a leak. Grateful thanks to Jim Price for his help in solving that problem.

We also thank the Cricket Club for continuing to maintain the sports ground, even though, due to the current situation, they have been unable to play a match this year.

To acknowledge VE Day, and in the absence of the planned coffee morning, we put bunting and flags up around the perimeter to show our support.

We hope you are all staying safe and well and look forward to the time that we will be able to reopen and get back together.

Denise.



Thanks to

for kindly sponsoring Roundabout



Health and safety precautions involved firefighting lessons and gas mask drill. In 1941 Redlynch & District W. I. recorded that they fined members one penny for forgetting to bring their masks to meetings, which raised 24p for the Wool Fund.

WIs at the time were only set up in communities of less than 5,000 people so plenty of members took in evacuee children and their mothers. Evacuees were shocked that country houses often had no running water or electricity not to mention outdoor loos. The WI hosts in turn were appalled to find that many of the children had head lice or couldn't use a knife and fork - and in their opinion the women from towns couldn't cook. They raised their concerns about child welfare in a national survey of WI hosts and it subsequently became part of a campaign for child benefits.

I milked the cows , some by hand and some by machine and then I had to filter the milk into a churn, which I loaded onto a trap, harnessed the pony and set off to deliver it around the village. I measured the milk out in a bucket, but the farmer just gave me the order book and I hadn't a clue where to go. Luckily, the pony knew which houses to stop at and then move on without any help from me. It was tricky on a Sunday morning when the Church bells rang: he didn't like them and would run away with the milk cans with me chasing after him. Once, I even tied him to a fence but he took off, dragging that with him too.

' See this as a gratitude reset, to help us better appreciate the things, people, experiences we've been taking for granted. There's a lot of joy around the corner.'

Cheryl Rickman psychology practitioner and author of "The Happiness Bible".

Sandra

Morrisons Doorstep Deliveries

You may already be aware of this service but if not a few details for you. As a way of helping those who are self isolating, vulnerable or not able to visit a shop, Morrisons have created their Doorstep Delivery service to bring shopping to your door.

There is a list of items to choose from, a number to ring when you will give your order to a real live person. Delivery is the following day and payment preferably by contactless card, but cheques are accepted. If you would like to give this service a try, email or ring me for more details. I can also supply the list of items .

Annie the Ed

The City of Aberdeen was locked down in 1964 when I was in my first year at the Girls High School. A consignment of tinned corned beef from Argentina was delivered to one of the first supermarkets in the city, where it was sliced, and some of it was sent to an Old Peoples' Home.

Unfortunately, the tin had a hole in it, and the meat had been infected with Typhoid. The meat slicer had also become infected and this caused the disease to spread. Residents of the Home began to die, and the general population began to succumb to Typhoid.

Aberdeen was quickly cut off from the rest of the world, and all trains, planes and buses were cancelled. No one could get into or come out of The City.

All the schools were closed, as well as all places of entertainment, such as pubs, restaurants, cinemas, swimming pools and theatres.

It was the beginning of May, and we schoolchildren could look forward to an extra six weeks of summer holiday. We were set a bit of homework, such as revising French and Latin verbs and in particular, I remember visiting nearby woods with a friend and drawing leaves, describing bark, and identifying trees in a Botany notebook.

Like now, the weather was unseasonably hot and sunny, and we were allowed to visit our friends. We knocked a ball about in tennis courts in the parks, and cycled to the beach, where we happily paddled and sunbathed on the almost empty stretches of sand.

Sadly, the ice cream shops and cafes were closed, as well as our favourite fun fair. The only places which were open at the beach were the Public Conveniences.

The City Fathers had decreed that it would no longer be necessary to spend a penny to visit them, and the coin operated slots were removed. They were all cleaned to perfection, and the limp roller towels were replaced with paper towel dispensers, and soap dispensers instead of blocks of carbolic soap.

Food, like now, was available, but family members in other parts of Scotland still sent us food parcels, and my mother's grandparents, who had a farm in Ireland sent us a huge parcel containing an enormous chicken, eggs, butter and cheese.

Eventually the epidemic was brought under control, Aberdeen was released from lockdown, and we all went back to school in September.

Let us hope that the same pattern will be repeated now, and that we will be able to write about this lockdown and a successful outcome, in later years.

Louise Holroyd

Covid 19

Stuck inside
Only to find
Coronavirus ruining our lives
I am losing my mind
Due to Covid 19

Schools are closed
No sport to play
Only allowed out once a day to let off steam
And to exercise they say
Due to Covid 19

I am not permitted to see my friends
This social distancing is sending me round the bend
I have not seen my cousins or grandparents for weeks
Our hairstyles are so long they make us look like freaks who do not wish to be seen
Due to Covid 19

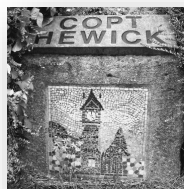
Home schooling is hard but has to be done
Thank goodness for the daily cycle or run
Lots of people are dying around the world and the UK
It would be more if the NHS were not here to save the day
Due to Covid 19

More time on our hands to do what we desire
Less pollution, brighter skies, time for a Scout virtual campfire
The animals seem pleased, bird species are returning
And new skills such as bread baking we are learning
More films we have seen
Due to Covid 19

We are over the peak
Some restrictions were lifted this week
When it is over new lessons we will have learnt
To reflect on what is important in life
And not let our planet be burnt let us not forget what our eyes have seen
Due to Covid 19

Dominic Stenning

Margaret & John Bushell's grandson who is 11 years old



Out & About In Copt Hewick

In these continued troubled times I sincerely hope you and all your family are well. We live in a small community here in Copt Hewick and amidst all the upheaval it is great to see such a community spirit in place with offers of help and assistance coming from everywhere.

Writing this review here in mid May all events at the hall (bar the book sale – see below) are still on hold but we will look forward to brighter times when the hall is again the hub of the village social scene for both villagers and hirers of the hall.

One thing we have been able to put into place at the hall is the opening of the hall each and every Saturday between the hours of 10am and 1pm for book sales. We have hand sanitizer available and are asking visitors to conform to social distancing requirements etc. as declared by the UK government. Please feel free to donate any books you may have too. Donated books are to be placed in a village hall pre supplied box inside the hall (clearly marked for your attention), these will then be quarantined for the week before being placed on sale from the week after. Any surplus books we end up with once sorted through will duly be transported to a number of charity shops in Ripon.

Looking to the future we are always on the lookout for help with the monthly catering at the pub nights please contact Nicky on 01765 604617 or email on copthewickvh@gmail.com if you can help out in any way on future dates.

Hopefully the yearly apple picking will happen this year, but whatever happens you can still help out the hall by purchasing the remaining stock of the 2019 Apple juice harvest. If you'd like to purchase any juice please contact David Thelwall (01765 602514). Juice is priced at £10 per box of six and orders are preferably to be collected from David's driveway at Prospect House (Back Lane of the village)

Book Sale	Every Saturday between 10am – 1pm
Pub Nights	TBA (1 st Saturday of the month)
Bar Nights	TBA (The Friday Following on two weeks after the pub night)
Saturday 28 th November	Christmas Fair 11 am – 3:30pm

Our Facebook page & email address

<https://www.facebook.com/Copthewick123/>
copthewickvh@gmail.com

Regards
Mark

I would like to start by apologising for the unfortunate omission of one important part of the section on taking a pencil and ruler in last month's magazine. I did think of a Captain Mainwaring bluff by saying that I was waiting to see who would spot that. Some of you obviously spotted the omission and were able to work out what was missing. Some just put it to one side, and some even complained about Pascal. It should have read :- Draw two non-parallel lines and mark on each of them three dots. On one of them label the three dots A, B, and C, and on the other label the three dots a, b, and c. Draw a line between A and b, a and B, B and c, C and b, C and a, A and c. The three points of intersection will be on a straight line, despite the randomness of the lines drawn and dots distributed.

On a recent television programme a medical practitioner presenting the programme talked about intelligence and among other things talked about "verbal intelligence". But whilst he had tests for this I would contend that he wasn't measuring intelligence, verbal or otherwise. Intelligence is essentially the ability to find alternative ways of reaching a particular goal if the usual approach is frustrated for whatever reason. The fly shows a lack of intelligence when it keeps bashing into the window glass, frustrated in seeking a way outside. The leading goal scorer in a football team is often such because he/she is able to find new ways of getting the ball round and through a well-rehearsed defence system. Intelligence tests rarely seem to measure intelligence, but then how easy to set up a grading system for a test of a footballer's intelligence?

My mother-in-law had a habit of saying "My conscience...." prior to a statement of some kind. What she wasn't doing was making a statement about her conscience. When in the film of Pinocchio, the little wooden boy lacks a conscience he gets the support of Jiminy Cricket, who acts as his conscience. I haven't read the initial story by Carlo Collodi but wonder how he dealt with the issue. I can't believe he originated the song "always let your conscience be your guide", however. When Salman Rushdie, in his recent book "Quichotte" (inspired as a modern version of Don Quixote), has a similarly created boy who is also given a conscience. Here, however the conscience leaves when the boy insists on doing bad things. But how is conscience formed? How is it guided? How good a moral guide is a conscience?

If I have been brought up by a safe-breaking father who is particularly skilled and successful and whom I want to emulate, I may occasionally make mistakes and think how badly father would think of me. I have a conscience, not about stealing, but about not having done a good job. In what sense should we expect a conscience to be a good guide?

A constable reporting for duty is handed a wanted sign and asked to look out for the man pictured on it. The sergeant went on to say that the man was last seen wearing a brown paper hat, a brown paper shirt, brown paper pants and brown paper boots. The constable, a little taken aback asked what he was wanted for. The sergeant replied "Rustling".

Brian Howard

The Parish Council held their first public meeting on Zoom on Monday 18th May (although no members of the public actually engaged).

Key items on the agenda included a discussion about the new traffic calming chicane on Dishforth Road and the ongoing issue of speeding.

It is regretted that North Yorkshire County Council Highways Department (NYCCHD) did not consult with the Parish Council before constructing the chicane in its current (less than satisfactory) position.

The Parish Council have agreed to have a face to face discussion with a NYCCHD representative on site in the near future.

Amendments to the signage and additional road markings will be proposed.

Speeding continues to be an issue and is a danger to local residents, pedestrians and cyclists

The current COVID advice, with encouragement to get out of doors for exercise and for returning workers to travel to work by bicycle or on foot, provides the ideal motivation to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

A 20MPH speed limit in Sharow would be a major step towards improving local safety as well as a reduction in pollution levels.

More than 50 town boroughs and villages in UK have now established 20MPH speed limits in residential areas. The rationale for 20 mph as the default speed limit for residential streets is given below:

More than half of road deaths and serious injuries occur on roads with 30 mph limits (Transport Statistics for Great Britain). Britain has the highest percentage of pedestrian road fatalities in Europe 22.5%. (EU European Road Safety Observatory) Britain has one of the lowest levels of children walking or cycling to school in Europe. Speed limits on Britain's urban roads are 60% higher than Europe.

(30 mph compared to 18.6 mph)

British parents consistently cite traffic speed as the main reason why their children are not allowed to cycle or walk to school.

Lowering urban and residential speed limits to 20 mph has been found to increase a urban journeys by just 40 seconds maximum. Lowering urban and residential speed limits to 20 mph has been found to decrease child pedestrian accidents by up to 70% (Transport Research Laboratory). In Portsmouth the 20mph limit on all residential roads has reduced casualties by 22%.

24% of in town trips are made by bicycle.

All residential streets have an 18.5 mph speed limit, with some reduced to 9 mph.

Road side cycle tracks are being removed as the road is an even safer place for cyclists to be and is more direct and more convenient.

In Portsmouth, and Newcastle, and Leicester and Oxford, and Hull, and Bristol, and Warrington, and Islington and many more towns, council officials are using the recent DfT Guidelines changes to introduce blanket 20 mph limits on residential streets.

80% of the public and 75% of drivers support 20 mph as a speed limit on residential streets It is time for our residential roads to be equitably shared with all the users by setting an appropriate speed limit that protects the young and the vulnerable.

- First gathering

One of the things I've enjoyed about lockdown is all the new ways people have found of keeping in touch. On Tuesday evening, before the 7 pm curfew service on Facebook, there is a Zoom gathering at 6.15 pm called Ideas. We start with a prayer and there is music and the odd prayer or reading to fill the gaps. Only there weren't any gaps! I had envisaged quiet, contemplative times, with soothing, meditative music. Not a bit of it. We talked about the symptoms of wellness. We keep hearing about the symptoms of Covid 19 and maybe we become a bit over anxious but what about the symptoms of wellness? You might like to think about it: time, quiet, lack of pressure, energy....any number of things which may be part of lockdown too. If you come up with any symptoms of wellness for yourself, let us know. We are all different and our symptoms of sickness and wellness are often different too.

If you'd like to join in The "Ideas" gathering on a Tuesday evening and want details of Zoom login, email me: ruthgrenfell@gmail.com. There isn't an agenda and we'll go with whatever is on your mind. As Simon points out, by the time you read this there will have been another one and goodness knows what we shall have discussed. Keep well, keep safe.

Ruth G

Roundabout readers are requested to express their support for a 20 MPH speed limit throughout Sharow village. This would include Dishforth Road, Berrygate Lane and Sharow Lane.

I support the implementation of a 20MPH speed limit in Sharow.

Comments: (optional)

Signed: Name

Address: / Postcode

Please send replies to :

**Chairman Sharow Parish Council, Sharow Cross, HG4 5BQ
or email robertforber@hotmail.com**

To You All

The printed copy of June's Roundabout is with you as usual, thanks to the team of distributors who are willing to continue to deliver as part of their daily exercise routine. There will also be an online version published on St John's website

Thank you to all those who have again helped to make the June issue a bumper copy and I already have copy for July, which I just couldn't include in this edition. . Thank you so much for all your contributions and I look forward to more of the same.

My good wishes to you all and keep safe and well..

Annie the Ed.

**Take
Note**

**July Roundabout
Final Copy Date
5pm Tuesday 16th June**

**To get Roundabout
printed and out on time
we do have to abide by deadlines.
The copy date is fixed as late as possible
to meet these.**

**As a result items received after
the 5 pm deadline cannot be
included**

**Take
Note**

Thanks to **Tom & Margaret Plunket** for kindly sponsoring Roundabout

I've just received a packet of photographs from an old friend taken on a school trip 60 years ago this summer. Aged 17, we were about to go into the upper 6th and sit our A-levels in French and German so the teachers organised a visit through Belgium and into Germany.

We toured the length of Germany from Cologne to Munich and Garmisch-Partenkirchen near the Austrian border but the highlight of the trip was a week spent in the town of Bacharach on the banks of the Rhein with hills rising steeply from the river to a castle on the mountain top and that was where we stayed. It was a youth hostel and we shared our dormitory with a group of young German boys.

In the hostel we had to be in bed by 9.30pm and the lights went out at 10pm which did not go down well with a bunch of 17 year olds. We had never heard of testosterone but we were aware of the effects and we wanted to be out on the town of a night. So when the lights went out we found a way over the wall and visited the hostelrys down the hill. We were a bit noisier coming back which disturbed a very sleepy little German boy who became convinced he was seeing ghosts moving around in the black night. Crying to his group leader led to an investigation and the inevitable discovery of our moonlight adventures. The hostel authorities wanted to throw us out but the teachers managed to persuade them to give us another chance. The penalty was that we had to peel all the hostel spuds for the rest of the week and there were a lot of them. My mother always said you can never get away with it, you will always be found out in the end. Still, all in all a wonderful holiday. I returned to Bacharach twice more, and sailed past on a river cruise last year, and it still gives me a buzz.

Charles Tease



Thanks to **Claire Green** for kindly sponsoring Roundabout

by Tomos Roberts

poem tells the story of a post coronavirus world in which people have learned to value things they had long been taking for granted and have found a harmonious balance with nature. In short, he describes a better world after the pandemic. This beautiful poem is told as a bedtime story.





MAY 8th 2020
75th Anniversary of VE day 1945

I had the pleasure of being in London on the First Anniversary of VE Day. I was 18 at the time and there at the AGM of the National Association of Girls Clubs and Mixed Clubs representing Durham County.

To celebrate this anniversary, a huge parade was organised. Representatives of all the different Services who had taken part in the conflict were represented. Together with the Royal Family, members of the Commonwealth and every allied nation, were included in this display of King and Country working together, in a common cause. One can imagine the excitement of the people who came from all over this country and abroad, to witness the great occasion. Many had been sleeping on the streets so that they could have a good view of the Parade. Our headquarters were in Marylebone, just a short walk from Oxford Street and all six of us decided to go there, though we knew we would not be able to see very much. However, one of our number, Cyril said he would go ahead and find us a good viewing point. When we reached Oxford Street, the pavements were all thickly packed with people, most of whom had spent the night there. How to find Cyril in that vast crowd was a problem. However, I suddenly spotted him. At the Marble Arch end of Oxford Street, just yards from where we were waiting, stood the Cumberland Hotel with a huge canopy shading the entrance. There was Cyril perched on the top! We soon joined him by climbing up a drain pipe and protruding stone work! We had the best view in London as from up there we could see the Parade coming along Park Lane from the Palace and turning down into Oxford Street. That was the most amazing sight. Each contingent had its own band and the sound of all of them together with the cheering was tremendous. In the evening we went to Trafalgar Square, joining the dancing and singing until the early hours. What a day and what a memorable occasion.

Frances Demain

THOUGHTS FROM LOCKDOWN

Now that I am really old
And never a “sixties” girl,
I look back on their jollifications,
Their lives an eternal whirl.
We had the ‘joys’ of Wartime;
Bombs and queues for food.
As I and my friends were ‘Convent girls’
We did not know how to be rude!
This Lockdown away from the Virus
Is a greater threat than bombs.
At least we knew where our enemy was
And had shelters near our homes.

It could be quite a lesson
For all of us to be aware,
That there are others all alone
Who need our help and care.
There is no Treaty available
To end this virus war.
We have to obey our leaders
And stay behind our door.
Just keep in touch with all your friends
By e-mail or by phone.
That way we will feel no longer
That we are all alone.

“Hope is knowing that now is not permanent”

Frances M Demain
April 2020



During the Lockdown, the locals have been keeping their eye on the nesting by the canal where they did last year. The male with a leg ring XDD is a Littlethorpe bird. Incubation is on average 36 days so cygnets should arrive this week. The discarded eggs in April were probably infertile –up to 40% can be. Most of our local swans are sedentary but we get influxes over the winter and spring [up to 60 birds] that often bring with them The canal is much walked and a dog otter, surprisingly tame is often seen between Renton's Bridge and Ox Close Lock and quite oblivious of his admirers. The canal is 'gin' clear with no water traffic, the bottom visible with thousands of young fish, roach, perch etc provide all the 'indigenous' fishermen, especially the otter with a feast. Permanent cameras set up on the reserve nightly record otter so they are nearby if not so easily seen. Also on the canal feed and pairs of summer migrants dive in. A pair are commonly seen on the posts in front of the reopened Canal Reed Bed Hide and elegant they look befitting of their other name sea swallow. With the cold damp weather today 10th May we may get 2 much rarer terns, and hundreds of feeding low over the lagoons. Our reserve has been exciting this month, sometimes for the wrong reasons. Locks on the gates have been forced [new stronger ones fitted] and people apprehended blithely walking through when signs emphatically state that the reserve is CLOSED. This small minority like cyclists on the canal have little thought for others and have been photographed and some are on the website. We all appreciate that life is difficult at the moment but if we are not careful precedents are established and this includes trespassing on farmer's fields. Enough of the 'beef'; on with the pleasant. A pair of the small migrant falcon have been circling in the hot still air catching St Mark's flies. A few emerging damselflies - common blue and blue-tailed called teneral with glistening wet wings provide further sustenance for the hirundines and that are a different family. One or two migrated north over the reserve in April but lady luck plays a great part in being in the right place at the right time. have recently lingered. In last month's Stop Press there was a passing SW over Thirsk. Nationally up to 25 have been seen where they not normally are, many from recent releases in the Isle of Wight, but certainly not all. You will recognise these as their nickname 'flying barn doors' aptly describes their jizz –yes they are that big! A most satisfying observation during the current situation was that many family groups are noticing perhaps for the first time what has always been on their doorstep. I get many reports on the ducklings and M chicks on Trump Pond by Deanswood where up to 40 pairs of Rook kick up a din –a real spring sound in their rookery. Local woodlands are splendid with various shades of green, the dull sycamore, bright beech often with bluebell below, hawthorn ablaze with flower, blackthorn long gone looking as if flowers have been frosted, bronze-green oaks just emerging and ash yet to leaf. I have never seen wild garlic/ransoms *Allium vineale*. so prolific and Deanswood is a picture with in places yellow archangel *Galeobdolon luteum*. My butterfly list is now up to 10 –the latest being red admiral on our Morello cherry. 'Nocmig, now there's a new term to conjure with and is nocturnal migration. Enterprising lockdown 'listers' have during the hours of darkness set up sound recorders. Much migration occurs during the hours of darkness with some surprises.



. For instance a sea duck passes W to E particularly over northern England in early April. In the S the very rare has been recorded in autumn unknown before Nostmig.

Carrots have been dangled to remind us what we are missing. Locals at Nosterfield have recorded or in summer plumage, 3 pairs of the migratory duck and now the long staying American the rare is in summer finery. How we miss searching for Bloody-nosed beetle on crossword, the first dingy skipper and southern brown argus butterflies and wildflowers on Nosterfield's tracks.

You may know nothing about birds, but all will recognise the sound of the and one was heard by the old railway at 08.05hrs on 7th May. Two pairs of returned to The Manor Gardens on 9th May. Both and were at RCW in mid-May. The pair of on Adam's Island RCW have sadly gone. On the damp Sunday 10th May I looked for on all Littlethorpe water bodies and found none. But on Nicholson's Lagoons where conditions were quieter over 1000 hirundines and fed on the hatch just skimming the water.

have been dug out of the compost heap again –and it `aint half hot in there with all the lawn mowing. No chance yet of applying lawn sand as instructions say `keep off in drought and if frost is forecast`.

We were envious of Monty Don this week stood in pouring rain as it had done so all the previous night. Shame he got confused with 2 summer bulbs *Eucomis* and *Nerine* - he placed *Nerine* deep in a pot where of course the necks of the bulbs should be above the surface; and *Eucomis* should have been planted deep. An article in a recent *Dalesman* on Liquorice and rhubarb showed a colourful picture of Swiss Chard instead of rhubarb illustrating the article. We could hear the rumblings from the Rhubarb Triangle of West Yorkshire.

The weather is so fickle, forecasts of `hefty showers` means wall to wall sunshine. In May we are having to water borders to plant Ammi and *Eschscholtzia*. The top 2-3" is like dust on our light loam soil. Let us hope that a wet winter finishing with nearly 6" rain in February has really topped up the aquifers and reservoirs. The last thing we need is a summer drought!

By the time you read this, garden centres and our wonderful local small plant nurseries should be open. Many items have been purchased online and/or delivered but it is not the same is it? How galling for these nurseries to see the supermarkets and hardware shops selling plants and compost when they have been unable to trade normally.

Our greenhouse [currently plastered with sycamore flower] and frame are full to bursting with summer bedding and pot grown vegetables. A few aphids on the usual susceptible plants, but a far greater pest was a female pheasant sitting on a shelf at the heated end amidst pot and plant devastation. What made her wander in despite protection at the open door? What to do, take flight and she would take the glass with her with more destruction? Somehow in the end she walked out with gentle coercion and a hard stare and the glass is now replaced. We were going to have a new top [aluminium] this spring, but like much else the project is pending.

A kindly neighbour has been sharpening resident's garden tools –especially shears. and we are very grateful that ancient favourites have been brought back to life.

A timely reminder by Helen Yemm in the *Daily Telegraph* of `what not to plant`, or as we call them `garden must-haves` but in truth masquerading as garden thugs. Our *bete noire* are 2 bulbs *Allium* `Purple Sensation` and *Nectaroscordonsiculum*. Helen mentions self-seeders such as foxgloves, primrose, pink campion to which we would add feverfew, but at least these are fibrous rooted and easily eliminated. The real thugs are the tap rooted perennials like Welsh poppy, *Acanthus*, Japanese anemone and by far the worst is green alkanet *Pentaglottis sempervivens*. I well remember battles lost with this thug in my parent's patch and can report it is alive and well and spreading in Littlethorpe gardens.

Dahlia and chrysanthus arrived from Halls of Heddon and are now potted and will be hardened off and planted out in late May and early June.

Today the first delphinium flower. Some stems are flattened or fasciated, checked by drought/cold.

Bunches of climbing rose Golden Showers and Guinee and the sweetly scented perennial stock *Mathiolaincana alba*, plucked for house display together with Solomon's seal as a green foil.

All hybrid tea roses have aborted their flower buds in the drought.

Next the rain dance as one on 16th May produced a massive 0.01".



Another month has gone by and, as I write this, we are still governed by the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 Pandemic. This means, sadly, the Village Hall remains closed for all classes, meetings and events so no forthcoming Entertainments News to promote. Life does go on but in a quite different way. The Parish Council held the AGM and a normal meeting via Zoom recently so the business of the village is continuing in a different format. Various people celebrated VE Day within their households or outside in small groups at a safe distance from each other.

People are also continuing to help each other out in various ways: collecting and delivering necessities, sharing plants, sharpening tools, making meals, leaving little presents on the doorstep or simply being at the end of a phone when needed. As I have said before “What a wonderful community spirit we have here in Littlethorpe” I thought I would give you some more information about home deliveries that you might want to take advantage of:

of Community House has sourced surplus supermarket food and is planning to deliver hot meals to people in need on Thursday lunchtimes. It is free. If you, or anyone you know, (whether through frailty, poverty or general need) would like to take advantage of this, contact Janet Slater - 01765 601938 with details

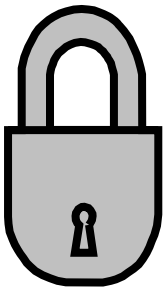
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Lend a Hand

Corona Cut

I glanced into my mirror and much to my surprise
A scruffy, unkempt sheepdog appeared right before my eyes

I looked a little closer and was quite amazed to see
That was no hirsute canine – no, sadly it was me!

What was my crowning glory had become a shaggy mess -
I wept, I wailed, I rent my clothes. It caused me great distress.

No hairdressers are open now, but girls we'll all pull through -
If we remember what my dear old mother used to do.

She'd tie us firmly to a chair when all of us were nippers.
Out of the larder she'd appear, brandishing the clippers.

But heaven help us if we moved or, woe betide us, giggle -
She'd clip a chunk out of our ears should we begin to wriggle

Or else she'd say 'It's for your own good, dears, something I must do'.
With pudding basins on our heads she'd stand us in a queue.

The scissors flashed before our eyes, oh how we'd scream and shout
As she began to cut off all the bits left sticking out.

Nothing did deter her, she'd pitch in and quickly start to work. She
Approached it with such passion; the results were rather quirky.

But am I brave enough? If not I could try this instead,
And walk around all day with a paper bag upon my head.

Or maybe an alternative, if everything else fails
I'll grab some rubber bands and I'll resort to pony tails

No, grasp the nettle, find the scissors, hack and chop with glee.
Set trends, invent *Corona Cut*, then make a pot of tea.

And when 'lockdown' is history, then surely I'll be known
As crazy Chris, the famous demon hairdresser of Stone.

Chris Handley



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Discover the history of our village.

Find out what other people have to say on the 'Guestbook' page.

This is YOUR website so get involved by sending any contributions (news items, photos, comments) to the editor at

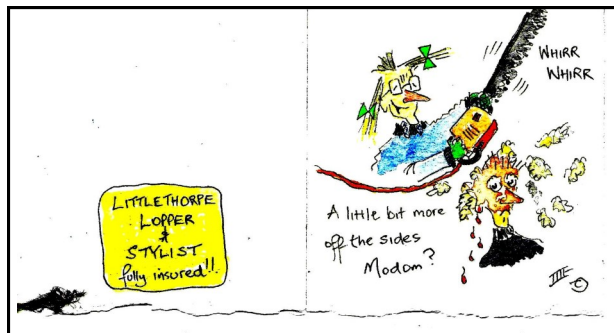
littlethorpe.northyorks@yahoo.co.uk

Sandra Roberts
Website Editor

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Please contact Church Wardens

Iris Alderson 01765 677644 or Peter Moss 075841 26254





We were sorry to hear that Bill Harker had died on 24th April. Bill and Joan [seen here at one of the many village events they supported] were residents at Lister House. Hopefully we will be able to visit Joan very shortly



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