

*the*STAR

Serving Scrooby, Torworth & Ranskill since 1984

October 2025 - Issue 477



INSIDE: Scrooby Horticultural & Craft Show results + What's on in our neck of the woods + BOO! Are you ready for Halloween?



thismonth

The Knowledge

The 20th Annual Scrooby Horticultural & Craft Show enjoyed bright, dry weather and a great turnout, with 57 competitors bringing 240 exhibits and a raffle so successful that tickets ran out. - *page 4*

Wildlife expert back to share the Creswell Craggs story and Flower Festival fundraising success benefits St Barnabas - *page 9*

Advice to keep warm and stay connected in winter, the penny trail keeps on growing and The Star is looking for some new team members - could it be you? - *page 10*



theteam

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Good Times

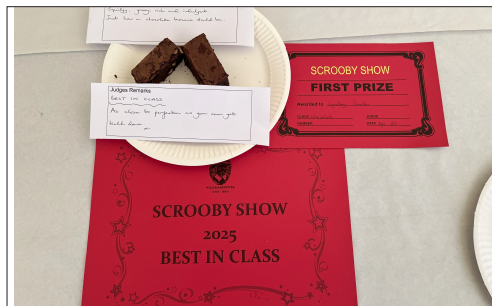
A round-up of what's on near Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill in October - *page 13*

Down Time

Your STAR Signs for October. - *page 19*

Christian perspective. **Plus:** Sudoku - *page 21*

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The Minutes

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Last Words

The spine-chilling tale of teenagers daring to exist in public and the ecological nightmare of bagged dog mess dangling from hedgerows like Halloween decorations. - *page 34*

Have your say

Do you have something you feel passionate about and would like to share with our community? We welcome contributions from readers who want to tell their story or express their views. If you'd like to contribute, please email your article to us at copy4star@yahoo.co.uk, or give your written piece to your village representative. Please keep submissions to around 350 words and ensure we receive your copy in good time for the following month's publication.

firstwords



October is upon us, and already we can feel those crisp mornings and cooler evenings settling in, can't we? There's something special about this shift toward autumn when the villages seem to glow with golden light and community spirit feels particularly warm.

It's the season for cozy gatherings, harvest celebrations, and that sense of pulling together as the darker evenings draw closer.

Speaking of pulling together, The Star is looking for new people to join our little team! We should be upfront and say these are unpaid, but we like to think the perks are in the taking part.

We're looking for distributors across Scrooby, Ranskill and Torworth, and we're also seeking newshounds who might like to help put these pages together each month.

Some computer skills are handy, but don't let that put you off – we can talk anyone through it.

Whether you're interested in joining our team or sharing what's happening in your corner of the villages, October's perfect for new ventures. From Halloween preparations to bonfire planning, every story matters.

Keep those emails coming - including your questions about our search for new team members - to copy4star@yahoo.co.uk.

Let's make this autumn one to remember!

George

the knowledge

We'll drink to that! Scrooby show marks 20th year with bumper turnout

The 20th Annual Scrooby Horticultural & Craft Show's weather was bright and dry, encouraging a great turnout!

Fifty-seven people submitted competition entries, collectively bringing 240 individual exhibits to the vegetable, flower, culinary, egg, children's, and art and craft sections.

The Vegetable Section prize for most points went to John Reeves, with Ann Robins and Lindsey Buxton being pushed back into second and third places. Neil Kettlewell won best in class with his Basket of Vegetables.

Most points in the Flower Section went to Ann Robins, with John Reeves and Elizabeth Cooper being second and third. Best in Class was Marion Hall.

The egg prize was a tie between Joan Sykes and Christine Hull. Best in Class was Arthur Willis.

As usual, the Culinary Class was hotly contested, with Lindsey Buxton winning first place for her "perfect" chocolate brownie; Joan Sykes was second, and Ann Robins was third.

In the Arts and Crafts section, most points went to Lynda Voynger, with a tie for second between Su McIlwaine and Ann Robins. Best in class was Sheila Janson with an exquisite landscape photograph.

The Children's Section was won by Eli Mayoh, with James Buxton and Ernie Kilner second and third. Best in class was Ollie Partlow with a wonderful Lego Construction.

The prize-giving culminated with the award of the Rose Bowl for most points overall - John Reeves took the prize with a massive 44 points. Great effort, John!



Many thanks to the judging team, Don and Helen Skelton, Heidi Robbins, Jacky Fenning, Becki Burbanks and Julie Arnold. Thanks to Tracey Taylor for opening the show and giving out all the prizes. We are grateful to Steve Cordery, who judged the dog show, and, along with George Gargett and Blair McGowan, pulled many pints.

The kids' races were again popular - thanks to Kelly Harman for organising this. The annual tug of war was a great success as always.

There was a great turnout from visitors, and the marquee was packed with people browsing the stalls. The raffle, run by Sally Henshaw, was so popular that the tickets ran out, and some had to be improvised! A big thank you to the people and businesses who contributed the prizes.

Thanks to Ed Marshall for bringing the wonderful Pheasantry Brewery beer - by the end of the afternoon, all the beer had been drunk!

The show couldn't have happened without the organising skills of Elaine Gargett and

SCROOBY SHOW GRAND RAFFLE - PRIZE WINNERS 2025

	Prize Donated	Donor	Company	Winner
1	6 tickets for Sheffield Steelers	Phil Haxby	Wilfreda Beehive	Gareth Price
2	£50 voucher The Pantry, Bawtry		The Pantry, Bawtry	Kelly
3	BBQ	John Hudson		Max Clapham
4	Platinum VIP vouchers	Karl	Bawtry Paintball	Cath Farrel (Lisa)
5	£50 voucher Mayflower Inns	Joe Harper	Harper Inns	Sarah
6	£50 B&Q Voucher	George Gargett	Togel Contractors	Bill Arrowsmith
7	Cheese & Wine Hamper	Steve & Jackie Fenning		Cath Farrel
8	£50 Voucher Pilgrim Fathers	Joe Harper	Harper Inns	Lyn Drummond
9	Bubbles, Bed & Breakfast @ The Crown		The Crown	Richard Skelton
10	Steam Cleaner	Dave Hooton		Carol Skulley
11	Gin Hamper	Bev		John Reeves
12	Cheese & Wine Basket	Tony & Sue Smith		Gary
13	Village Church Photo	Chris Ceaser	Chris Ceaser Photography	Dave Hull
14	Malt Whisky & Glasses	Steve & Leigh Cordery & Jane		Dave Hooton
15	£40 Ashton Poole Pamper Voucher		Ashton Poole	Amber McAndrews
16	Whisky & Glasses	Steve & Jane Lincoln		Steve Harrison
17	Ladies Hampers	Helen Skelton & Businesses	Ann Wilkinson, Beauty Hub, Iconic Makeup	Tony Smith
18	Children's Hampers	Jim Cameron	The Glo Company, Wonderland Book Store	Georgie Holmes
19	Pims Hamper	Kelly & Norman		Kelly
20	Garden Hamper & Port	Margaret & Home Bargins	Home Bargins	Elaine B
21	Four Bottles of Wine	Multiple		Sally
22	Children's Hamper	Tony & Sue Smith, Jim Cameron	The Glo Company, Wonderland Book Store	Jacob H
23	Bottle of Whisky	Izzy		Margaret Hill
24	Children's Hampers	Jim Cameron & Sally	The Glo Company, Wonderland Book Store	Tom Harrison
25	Black Magic Hamper	Lisa, Peter & Steff		Ben Brookes
26	Retford FC Family Day Out	Chris Woodhead	Retford FC	Mick
27	Hamper	John Reeves, Dave, Linda, Judith		Mick
28	Hamper	Multiple	Stonebridge Private Clients	Ruth Heel
29	Hamper	Brenda Grant, Margaret Clarkson		David Haith
30	Hamper	Joan Sykes< John & Joan, Dave & Linda		John Heeley

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(Christmas Fayre)

(Christmas Special)



Chris has been a professional landscape photographer for the past 20 years. His work has been exhibited across the country and, after running his gallery in the heart of York for 10 years, he now works out of his new studios here in Scrooby.

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Chris is an Ambassador for the Canson Infinity range of museum grade papers and also works with Canon at events across the country. His work is printed on the very same paper stock that was used by some of the world's finest artists, such as Van Gogh, Cezanne, Monet, Picasso & Chagal.

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Greetings Cards

Chris runs a range of over 300 card designs, all printed on beautiful 350gsm silk art board. These cards will be on show throughout the weekend.



Chris Ceaser Photography
Ryton Studios, Ryton House
Chapel Lane, Scrooby DN10 6AE

email: info@chrisceaser.co.uk
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James Arrowsmith, and their team of helpers. Matt Pollard and Tom Robins flipped burgers and drank beer. Bill Arrowsmith, Barbara Hubbard, Sophie Arnold and Michaela Blount processed the class entries; The cream teas and cake stall was run by Cate Mayoh, Izzy Marshall, Liz Barton and Faye Leggard. Thanks to Ed Marshall for counting all the money after the event.

The purpose of the show is not to raise money, but to generate enough revenue to continue hosting the show next year and maintain the high standards of a traditional local horticultural and craft show.

Next year will be our 21st show, taking place on Saturday, 5th September 2026.

This year's organisers are standing down for next year. Still, the reins will be taken over by Terry Goldsmith and Steve Cordery, who would be grateful for any additional help. Anyone wishing to get involved or suggest ways to improve the show, please feel free to contact Terry (07507 493430) or Steve (07494 242853).

We are already looking forward to next year.

Useful contacts



Guides: Sandra McIvor
07876 787959

Brownies & Rainbows:
Janet Symonds
01777 818713

Scouts: Mark Mounde
01427 849130

Cubs: Mark Mounde
01427 849130

Beavers: Ieuan
07778 702914

Methodist Church:
Circuit Office:
01777 702786
(Mon, Tues, Thurs. 9.30 - 3.00)

Bawtry Amateur Dramatic
Society: Louella Chesterman:
07754 547652

Scrooby Village Hall:
Izzy Marshall
01302 719190

Torworth & Ranskill &
Scrooby Allotment Ass'n
Stephen Cole:
01777 818779

Bassetlaw Cardiac Support
Group:
Christine Coldwell
01909 730629

Ranskill & Torworth Afternoon
Fellowship Club:
Carol Head
01777 705077

Ranskill Top Shop:
01777 818864

Mattersey (with Ranskill)
Wraparound and Holiday
Club:
01777 817265 / 07973
870299
office28@mattersey.notts.
sch.uk
wraparound@mattersey.notts.
sch.uk

Ranskill Bowls Club:
Simon Wallis
07876 285593

Ranskill Investment Club:
David Smith
01777 818400

Ranskill Nursery Pre-school:
Rachel Clayton
01777 816066

Ranskill Primary School,
Head Teacher, Mrs J
Throssell,
01777 818468

Ranskill Reading Room:
Peter Parkin
01777 818852

Ranskill & Torworth W.I:
Pat Blatchford
01777 818519

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Representatives In Ranskill:
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01777 816325

Scrooby: Alyson Goldsmith
07507 493430

Ranskill Parish Council:
Bryn Kinsey
07305 129849

Scrooby Parish Council:
Tony Smith
07974 836978

Torworth Parish Council:
Claire Challener
07557 104323

District Councillors:
Ranskill & Torworth:
David Bamford
Scrooby: Jack Bowker
County Councillors:
Ranskill & Torworth:
Tracy Taylor
01777 816781
07770 847086

Scrooby: Tracy Taylor:
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Wildlife expert back to share the Creswell Crags story

A popular wildlife expert will return to speak about Creswell Crags' extraordinary history spanning tens of thousands of years, from Ice Age giants to modern-day species.

Dr David Glynn Fox will address the North Nottinghamshire Local Group of the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust on Thursday, 9th October, at the Idle Valley Centre.

The talk, starting at 7:15pm, will trace the geological formation of the limestone gorge through glacial action and explore its significance as an archaeological site where Neanderthals once lived.

Dr Fox will describe the remarkable array of creatures that have inhabited the area throughout history, including woolly rhinos, cave bears, hyenas, and lions. The presentation will also cover the site's rock art and witch marks carved into cave walls.

Creswell Crags is important for its evidence of Ice Age life and early humans, its rock art and its witch marks.



The speaker will bring the story up to date with current wildlife including wildflowers, birds, mammals, butterflies and moths that live in the area today.

Dr Fox is described as "one of our regular speakers and very popular with our members" though he hasn't appeared at the group for some time.

The group expects attendees will have "a much better understanding of the importance of Creswell Crags by the time David has finished."

Entry costs £3 and includes tea and biscuits. All are welcome and no advance booking is required.

The group offers email updates about future talks and activities, with no membership required.

Contact: Jan Williamson on 01777 709974, 07969180067 or janwilliamson133@gmail.com for email updates.

Flower Festival fundraising success

Ranskill and Torworth Women's Institute has presented a cheque for £1,000 to St Barnabas Church, Ranskill, following their successful Flower Festival fundraising event held in June.

The presentation was made by WI members Sue Floyd and Pat Blatchford to Rev Louise Bearder and Rev Irene Tissington at the church. The Flower Festival proved popular with visitors and raised the substantial sum for the local church.



From left: Sue Floyd, Rev Louise Bearder, Rev Irene Tissington and Pat Blatchford

Keep warm and stay connected in winter

The Wednesday Memory Group is warning residents not to let winter weather cut them off from vital social connections as the darker months approach.

The Group says maintaining social lives during winter is crucial for both physical and mental health, particularly for older residents.

October's shorter days and cooler nights can make people reluctant to leave home for social activities or club meetings, but organisers say help is available to keep residents connected.

The Bassetlaw Action Centre runs a car scheme and other services for older residents from its base on Canal Street in Retford. The centre is open 9am-1pm, Monday to Friday, and can be contacted on 01777 709650.

Their website at www.bassetlawactioncentre.org.uk details the full range of services available.

The services depend on volunteers, and the centre would welcome contact from anyone interested in helping.

The Wednesday Memory Group supports



people caring for someone with dementia, those with a diagnosis themselves, or anyone wanting to learn more about dementia support.

The group currently has a short waiting list but advises people to make contact as vacancies can arise unexpectedly. Sessions cost £10 including lunch, with the first visit free.

Contact Jan on 01777 709974, 07969180067 or janwilliamson133@gmail.com for information.

Penny trail raises £2,644

The Mile of Pennies fundraiser at Saint Barnabas Church in Ranskill has exceeded all expectations, now stretching 3 miles and 742 yards. The penny trail has raised £2,644 for the church, with organisers encouraging residents to keep contributing. Every penny counts as donations continue to pour in for the popular fundraising effort.

We're looking for a few new Star people

The Star is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help keep our three villages connected through local journalism.

We need reliable distributors for monthly walks around Scrooby, Ranskill, and Torworth – perfect for staying fit while meeting neighbours. Most routes take about an hour and can be done at your own pace. We're also seeking editorial helpers to assist with putting The Star together each month. From writing stories and taking photos to proof-

reading and layout, there are plenty of ways to contribute. Some computer skills are handy, but we can talk anyone through it.

While unpaid, volunteers say the rewards come from being part of the village conversation and seeing their work appreciated across the community.

Contact The Star team at copy4star@yahoo.co.uk to find out more. No experience necessary – just enthusiasm for keeping our villages connected!



THE BLUE BELL
RANSKILL

BLUE BELL RANSKILL



THE BLUE BELL
RANSKILL

Opening Hours:

Monday: closed
Tuesday 12-10pm
Wednesday 12-11pm
Thursday 12-11pm
Friday 12-11.30pm
Saturday 12-11.30pm
Sunday 12-9pm

Food Times:

Tuesday to Saturday: 12-9pm
Sunday: 12-6pm

Quiz night every Wednesday 8.30pm onwards - winning team prize and cash snowball to be won.

Steak night every Thursday 5-9pm alongside our main menu. Enjoy two 8oz sirloin steaks for £30, or two 8oz sirloin steaks + a bottle of house wine for £40.

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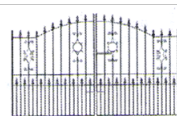


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goodtimes

Wednesday 1st October

Enter the Dragons Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. A frank, funny and fearless look at the subject of female ageing. Award-winning theatre show examining concerns and societal pressures surrounding women over fifty. From £15.50.

Thursday 2nd October

Man in the Mirror Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Electrifying Michael Jackson tribute starring CJ, one of the world's greatest MJ tribute artists. Featuring Thriller, Billie Jean, Beat It, Smooth Criminal with dazzling choreography, stunning visual effects and authentic costumes. From £24.

Mozart & Schumann Violin Sonatas Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. Ensemble 360's violinist Claudia Ajmone-Marsen and pianist Tim Horton perform elegant Mozart Violin Sonatas paired with Schumann works. From £13.

Friday 3rd October

Something about George - The George Harrison Story Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Musical biopic about the "quiet" Beatle starring West End actor Daniel Taylor. Features My Sweet Lord, Something, Got My Mind Set On You plus Beatles classics and Travelling Wilburys material with five-piece band. From £19.50.

P!nk Live 2025 Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. World's number one Pink tribute starring Vicky Jackson with full live band recreating Pink's concert tours. Featuring So What, Perfect, Try, Get The Party Started with incredible lighting, visuals and costume changes. From £28.25.

Saturday 4th October

COLDPLACE Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. World's leading Coldplay tribute featuring Yellow, Paradise, A Sky Full of Stars, Higher Power and My Universe. Recommended age 12+.

Josh Widdicombe: Not My Cup of Tea Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. The comedian is back on tour with his mastered art of stand-up. Co-hosts popular podcast Parenting Hell with Rob Beckett and stars on The Last Leg. From £32.50.

Wednesday 8th October

Venice Evening at Doncaster Little Theatre - Local photographer Chris Ceaser of Chris Ceaser Photography, Scrooby, presents "Venice: From Empire to Tourism," a photographic journey through the city's rise from small Adriatic islands to Mediterranean powerhouse and its modern struggles with decay and tourism. Illustrated with 50 stunning images capturing Venice's heart and soul. Doors open 6pm with bar, talk begins 7pm.

NOTTINGHAM to WATER LOO, Michael Kirkby Retford and District Historical and Archeological Society, 7:30pm. Chapelgate Hall (situated behind Grove Street Methodist Chapel) All welcome. For further information contact Joy Tudberry 01777 818419 or Colin Witham 01777 702475.

Mercury - The Ultimate Queen Tribute Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. More than 25 years on the road guaranteeing unforgettable night of Queen music. Joseph Lee Jackson brings authentic energy and incredible vocal range to portray Freddie Mercury, with Glenn Scrimshaw channeling Brian May's melodic genius. From £24.

Thursday 9th October

Queenz: Drag Me to the Disco Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Trailblazing live vocal drag sensation from London's West End. Dancing Queens and disco dreams collide in ultimate celebration of pop royalty.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE QUIZ NIGHT The Temple Doncaster, 7:00pm. Hosted by legendary Shaun Wallace (The Dark Destroyer from ITV's The Chase). Doors open 5pm. £10.

Friday 10th October

FLIGHT NIGHT: DONCASTER 2025 Doncaster Racecourse, 5:00pm. Ultimate darts showdown featuring pro players Glen Durrant, Adam Hunt, Neil Duff plus wildcards. From £15.

Saturday 11th October

Paul Zerdin Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Jaw Drop UK Comedy Tour featuring America's Got Talent winner.

Giselle Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Crown Ballet's romantic ballet where love triumphs over betrayal. Gravely ill peasant girl Giselle falls for dishonest Prince Albrecht. From £19.50.

Elvis Tribute Artist World Tour Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. Three of America's greatest Elvis tribute artists: Shawn Klush (BBC's World's Greatest Elvis), Cody Ray Slaughter (Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist champion) and Moses Snow (youngest Grand Champion). From £32.75.

The Nutcracker Cast Theatre, 2:30pm. Crown Ballet's eternal seasonal favourite. Tchaikovsky's charming fairy tale about Marie and her Nutcracker doll that turns into a prince. Based on E.T.A. Hoffmann's original Christmas story. Ideal introduction to classical ballet for any age. From £19.50.

Oktoberfest Doncaster Racecourse, 12:00pm. First-ever Oktoberfest at Doncaster featuring authentic Bavarian beer hall. From £15.

Friday 17th October

The Magpie Arc Cast Theatre, 7:45pm. Cross-border band from Sheffield, Edinburgh and Arran featuring Nancy Kerr, Findlay Napier, Tom Wright, Alex Hunter and tour guitarist Sam Carter. From £23.

Saturday 18th October

Roy 'Chubby' Brown Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. 50+ years in comedy entertainment. NOT MEANT TO OFFEND IT'S SIMPLY COMEDY TOUR. Age 18+ only.

Tina & Diana at The Minster Doncaster Minster of St George, 7:00pm. Tina Turner and Diana Ross tributes. From £20.

Tuesday 21st October

Horrible Histories Majestic Theatre, Retford, 1:30pm & 4:30pm. Gorgeous Georgians and Vile Victorians live on stage!

We are the Lions, Mr Manager! Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. Story of the Great Grunwick Film Processing Factory Strike 1976-8 and inspirational strike-leader Jayaben Desai. From £16.

Wednesday 22nd October

School of Rock Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. Lively Andrew Lloyd Webber musical based on 2003 film. Slacker rock guitarist Dewey Finn poses as substitute teacher. From £24.

Doncaster Film Club -- The Blair Witch Project Doncaster Little Theatre, 7:00pm. Doncaster Film Club presents Eduardo Sánchez and Daniel Myrick's horror classic. 81 minutes of creeping dread and primal fear of getting lost. From £7.

Thursday 23rd October

Queen of the Night - A Tribute to Whitney Houston Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Special 2-for-1 ticket offer! 10th anniversary celebration after selling 100,000 tickets including UK arena tour and Royal Albert Hall.

Journey to the Centre of the Earth Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. Lamphouse Theatre's comedy take on Jules Verne's classic. From £15.50.

Twilight Charity Ball Yorkshire Wildlife Park Resort, 7:00pm. Raise money for WildLife Foundation at Evolution Restaurant.

Friday 24th October

Chuckl. Retford with Ed Byrne and Special Guests Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Recommended age 16+.

Saturday 25th October

Strictly Come Dying Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. Highly Suspect's hilarious interactive murder mystery! From £17.

Wednesday 29th October

Stewart Lee vs The Man-Wulf Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. The Times' "world's greatest living stand-up comedian". Age 14+. From £29.50.

Catch Your Breath Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. NHS anaesthetist, comedian and author Ed Patrick presents hilarious show about becoming junior doctor, NHS, modern medicine pitfalls. Hosts 'Comedians Surgery' podcast with Joe Lycett, Rose Matafeo, Phil Wang. As seen on Channel 4, Have I Got News For You. From £15.

Thursday 30th October

Stewart Lee vs The Man-Wulf Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Brand new show continues multi-day run. From £29.50.

Friday 31st October

Beetle-Spoof Majestic Theatre, Retford, 6:00pm. Halloween Panto 2025 from team behind 'Harry Panto' and 'Hocus Panto'. Gothic girl's deadly funny adventure to rescue haunted house with Dame Betty Beetle! Magical illusions, pop songs, things that go bump in the night. Ghoulishly spooktacular for October half term. Recommended age 7+.

Dinosaurs Live Cast Theatre, 2:30pm. For first time since 1881, London's Natural History Museum goes on tour! Pre-historic journey to Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods with life-like dinosaurs coming alive on stage. Learn about fossils, time scales and planetary changes. Roaring experience like no other! Age guidance 3+. From £13.50.

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Please note a year is for 11 issues a year as there is no issue in January.

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Contact Name.....

Address.....

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Your STAR Signs for October

Aries: Your decisive nature comes to the fore. You may declare a one-person war on fallen leaves before they even get a chance to settle. A vigorous raking session is imminent.

Taurus: October is for sensory indulgence. Think hearty stews, apple crumble, and a good blanket. The only thing you're likely to find spooky this month is the price of a pumpkin.

Gemini: The darker evenings are perfect for lively chatter. You'll be the first to know whose Halloween decorations have crossed that fine line from festive to frankly terrifying.

Cancer: Your nesting instinct is in full force. It's time to batten down the hatches and make the house a cosy fortress against the autumn chill. Don't forget to stock up on biscuits.

Leo: Your generous spirit shines this month. You'll take pride in having the best-carved pumpkin on the street or handing out the full-sized chocolate bars to any trick-or-treaters.

Virgo: Practical matters occupy you. While others enjoy the spooky fun, you'll be quietly assessing the structural integrity of pumpkins and the potential fire hazard of decorative cobwebs.



Libra: Finding the perfect balance is your October quest: how many sweets to buy for trick-or-treaters you may or may not get? Agonise, then buy the big bag just in case.

Scorpio: You're in your element this month. The mysterious, spooky atmosphere of Halloween suits your soul. You might even share a genuinely unsettling local ghost story if asked.

Sagittarius: Your love of freedom may clash with organised fun. You might find the whole trick-or-treating business a bit baffling, but will play along with good-humoured honesty.

Capricorn: October is for finishing the job. You'll find deep satisfaction in putting the garden to bed for winter. Halloween may be acknowledged with a grimly carved turnip.

Aquarius: Your inner inventor may surface, perhaps with a clever contraption for dispensing sweets without leaving your armchair. You view ghost stories with a logical, amused detachment.

Pisces: The fantasy of Halloween delights you. As the nights draw in, you'll happily retreat into a world of spooky films and gothic novels, safe and sound on the sofa.

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We currently have three flats available at The Old Mill, Station Road: 2 x two-bed flats and 1 x one-bed flat.

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AND PARISH LUNCH ON 7TH SEPTEMBER



Christian perspective: Peace for all

There are many things that come to us in life that can cause worry and anxiety. Recently, I came across some advice giving a list of things to do if you are feeling anxious. It seemed to be completely up to the individual to practice certain routines and ways of living and put them into place. And somehow we find ourselves unable to do it.

One passage in the Bible has been a help to me over many years when worrying situations crop up, and I go back to it often. It's in Paul's letter to the Philippians 4:6-9. Paul starts by writing:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

He is saying that though difficult situations may arise, we are not on our own to deal with them. There is a place we can take them, and that is to God through Jesus Christ. So there are things we can do which will help. First we think of the blessings and good things that also come to us, and pray with thankfulness in our hearts.

Then, with thankful hearts, we can also petition God and tell him our needs. When we come like this, there is a sure and certain promise that is in place for us. Paul continues:

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This peace of God goes deeper and wider than anything we can think of or understand. And there is a guarding and protection around our minds and inner beings.

And there's more! Paul says it matters what we go on to think about, what we fill our minds with day by day in a regular way.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, noble and right, whatever is pure, lovely and admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

This peace of God is different from anything we can think of as peace in the world. It's a peace that goes deep within, with the knowledge that God holds us and our situation, and all that concerns us in his precious care. It takes the responsibility from us and puts it into God's hands. Jesus spoke about this peace to his disciples when he knew that the time was coming to leave them. He said:

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
John 14:27.

I've discovered that when I come to God like this, he lifts the burden from me and lots of ideas of how to deal with what is in front of me come flooding in. Join me in trusting our Heavenly Father with your worries and experience this precious peace.

** Brenda Critchley*

Sudoku puzzle for October

Sudoku is a number placement puzzle. The aim of Sudoku is to complete the grid by entering numbers from 1 to 9 in each empty cell of the 9x9 grid which comprises 9 sub-grids each with 9 cells in a 3x3 pattern.

Each row, column and sub-grid must contain only one instance of each number.

Solution on page 34.

	2	4						1
7		3	2					
	1		5	3		8		7
	9				1	7	8	
	3	8		2				9
			9				4	
	8	7	3	9		4		5
9		2	1	6				8
3				4	7		1	2

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or **07906075648**

STAR pop-up pub quiz for October

1. Bobby Pickett had a hit in 1962 with which Halloween song?
2. According to superstition, crossing paths with which animal foretells bad luck?
3. A carved turnip lantern in Irish folklore is called a what?
4. In parts of Germany, knives are hidden on Halloween to prevent harm from spirits – True or False?
5. Which ancient festival is widely regarded as Halloween's ancestor?
6. Transylvania's Bran Castle hosts an annual Halloween party in which country?
7. Which traditional Irish fruit bread is eaten on Halloween?
8. Which horror film actor features on Michael Jackson's "Thriller" album and song?
9. The 1968 hit "Season of the Witch" was sung by which Scottish artist?
10. What was Dr Frankenstein's first name?
11. In the film The Witches, what does the potion turn children into?
12. What vegetable was once thought to have supernatural powers on Halloween?
13. Which US city hosts the world's largest Halloween parade?
14. What is a fear of Halloween called?
15. The line "Do you like scary movies?" features in which Halloween movie?
16. Which animated character is also known as the Pumpkin King?
17. In the 1972 children's book of the same name, what are Meg and Mog?
18. Which Irish band had a hit song named "Zombie"?
19. What do you call a man who practices witchcraft?
20. What is another name for a lycanthrope?



Answers on page 34.

Letter to the editor

ADHD - The Stall at the Scooby Show:
Thank you all so much, we managed to raise
£50 for the ADHD charity.

Sue, Tony and Nick Smith

Local church notices for October

Church Notices for August 2025
(CW = Common Worship, HC =
Holy Communion, BCP = Book of
Common Prayer):

**Sunday 5th Blyth – 9.30am CW
HC**

**Sunday 12th Scooby – 9.30am
CW HC**

**Sunday 19th Ranskill – 9.30am
CW HC**

**Sunday 26th Blyth - 10.30 Fam-
ily Service**

Churches are open, and all are
welcome to services, please wear
a mask if you feel safer.

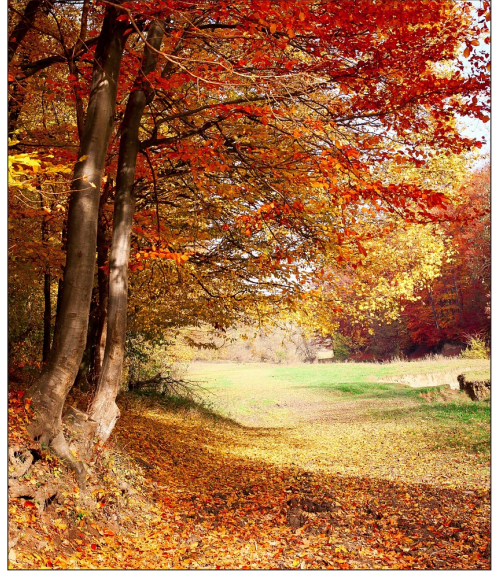
If you would like to arrange a
baptism, wedding, funeral or
other function, please contact
one of the churchwardens:
Ranskill, David Stacey 01777
818303; Scooby, Gordon Ash-
worth 01777 818322.



As Time Goes By

Autumn's on the prowl again,
Nudging Summer from the lane.
Cooler airs replace the days
Of summer's happy laughing ways.
Rustling leaves are turning brown,
Soon to be scuttling up and down.
Fields are empty, sheep are shorn,
Barns are filled with sheaves of corn.
Chestnut, acorn, holly berry
Herald a time of making merry.
Pheasant, hedgehog, hare and frog
Seek out their lairs — BEWARE that log!
It could be hiding sleeping creatures,
Huddled in its twisted features.
Move it gently if you must,
Let them slumber, respect their trust.
Yuletide beckons, the year slips by —
We live by its seasons, you and I.

Joy T



The STAR recipe: Banana Ginger Parkin

Makes 26 pieces. Can be stored up to 2 months in air-tight tin.

Ingredients

- 7oz plain flour
- 5oz medium oatmeal
- 3oz margarine
- 1 egg, beaten
- 5oz golden syrup
- 3 ripe bananas, mashed
- 2 level teaspoons ground ginger
- 2 level teaspoons bicarbonate of soda
- 4 level tablespoons dark muscovado sugar



Method

1. Sift flour with ginger and bicarbonate of soda – stir in oatmeal.
2. Gently melt margarine, sugar and syrup over low heat then stir into flour mix.
3. Beat in egg and bananas.
4. Turn into greased, lined 7" x 11" tin.
5. Bake at 325°F/160°C/Gas Mark 3 for 1 hour.
6. Leave in tin to cool – store 2 days to develop flavour (or nice to store for Bonfire Night).

To Serve

Drizzle with icing sugar mixed with stem ginger syrup – decorate each portion with a piece of stem ginger.

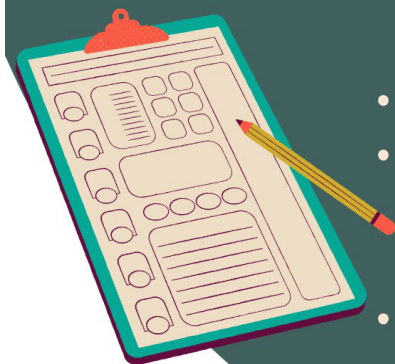
Ranskill and Torworth Festival
Committee



PIE & PEA QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY THE 14TH OF
NOVEMBER

- Friday 14th of November
- 18.30pm St Barnabas Church, Ranskill.
- £10.00 per ticket
- Come along and join us for an evening of fun, delicious food and great company!
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ABRIDGED DRAFT MINUTES of the SCROOBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 08 September 2025 in the Scrooby Village Hall

1.Present : Chair Stephen Cordery, Elaine Gargett, Terry Goldsmith, Lindsey Buxton, Dan Blount, Jean Ogden, Jack Bowker (District Councillor – Part), Tony Smith (Clerk & Treasurer), Parishioners / Public present: Bill Arrowsmith.

2.Apologies County Cllr Mike Robertson.

3.Minutes of the Last Meeting: Minutes were accepted, No corrections - Proposed by Terry Goldsmith, Seconded by Jean Ogden.

3.1.Confirmation of last meeting's action points Completed or ongoing listed, but: Procurement Thresholds updates are carried forward, as are the Parish Key and Equipment Register, New Model Financial Regulations review, Tesco funding application, Harworth Lengthsman scheme, Annual Accounts audited, Salt Bin locations, Stolen Plaques from The Whinze, Websites, Church Clock and Village Hall roof cleaning.

4.Agenda

- 4.1.Confirmation of Agenda Items – None (See below).
- 4.2.Public Discussion – Discussed the overgrown hedges on the Great North Road (see below).
- 4.3.Parish Councillor Vacancies – We have 1 vacancy and the search for a future Parish Councillor has found a candidate.

5.Correspondence: The usual number of notices, e-mails and letters had been received over the last months and were listed before the meeting. Those of note: New Councillor Training and Postal Voting need to re-apply every three years.

5.6 Bassetlaw DC publication of transport services for the elderly and disabled – Clerk to use all publicity methods.

6.District and County Councillor's Report

County Councillor – The new County Councillor – Absent, no report.
District Councillor Jack Bowker – Noted the interruption to bin collection

services due to a fire, no change to bin services though.

6.1 The Future of Local Government – JackB gave an update to the two preferred options (Notts City+2 Councils vs. North and South split), but stated the view that the reorganisation will not yield the savings and may reduce representation.

7.Finance Report

7.1 The Treasurer presented his report, which included Village Hall costs and Clerk salaries, Grass Cutting, Tree Lights, V Hall premises licence, etc. Full details of the report can always be viewed at www.scrooby.net.

7.2. Other activities: The change to Parish Council rules to use the .gov.uk provider continues. The Defibrillator paddles are to be renewed.

7.2.3 The application for funding from Tesco's was successful, the competition is at the Workshop Tesco in October.

7.5 The Annual Audit is passed and will be published shortly.

8.Police Report

Local PCSO. Tel: 07525 989445, did not attend. PCSO continues to be requested to attend.

9.Planning & Neighbourhood Plan

9.2 Planning issues: New Applications: Trees at New Farm Bungalow (no objections), Work to be done on Rosedale Low Road (objected to the changes on the Low Road perimeter).

Existing Applications: Land at Sheepcote House (withdrawn), Fertiliser Store in field to the south of the Village

(Agreed).

9.3 Others: BDC Planning Draft Supplementary Documents consultation.

10.Play Area

The next inspection is being organised.

11.Village Hall

11.1 Village Hall Operations: The hall is in good use, operating well.

11.1.2 Roof moss and guttering ongoing work done, item closed.

11.1.3 Village Hall Management System, Keys

and Equipment – A long discussion resulted in a need to update our policies to manage these items (in action).

11.3 The placing of large banner advertisements on the Village Hall and The Croft, agreed it is not a policy to allow such.

12.Village Environment

12.0 1 lot of Road works this month. Overgrown hedges in the alley behind the Church View bungalows to be trimmed.

12.0.3 Salt Bins work continues to agree their location with ViaEM, the new County Councillor asked to help. Salt bags to be ordered.

12.0.4 Village Hedges, Trees, Road Sweeping. A long discussion on a number of points, agreed to: Write to the 3 properties on the Great North Road: The Gardener is to work on the Village Hall hedges and Copper Beech trees:

Write to Jack Bowker re. the leaf clearing process and the Cherry Tree outside of

Church View.

12.1 Grass Cutting, The new contractor is in place and at work. Quote to be requested for saplings and tree work.

12.2 The development of The Whinze and Gibbet Hill Common – The replacement plaques are here and to be installed and the annual Bracken cut is on order.

12.6 St Wilfred's bell repairs – our assistance is ongoing.

14.Items for Information Only / Next Agenda

All members gave their praise and thanks to Elaine Gargett and the Scrooby Show committee for yet another successful Scrooby Show.

All minutes from Scrooby Parish Council meetings are always published after acceptance at www.scrooby.net

Next meeting to be held on Monday, 13th October 2025, 7.30 pm, in the Village Hall.

The SCROOBY Parish Council

This Month's Issues for you to note or muse:

Stay Safe, Stay Well

- *Criminal activity? If life threatening call 999, else 101*
- **SLOW DOWN on Chapel Lane and all the Village Roads.** *Report incidents of dangerous or inconsiderate driving in Scrooby to the Police.*
- And please do NOT park on the Croft, Station Road.**
- ***The birds have nested, it is time to trim your hedges back, especially on footpaths.***
- *Look at the Noticeboard / Information Hub (Chapel Lane) / Scrooby.net website for all the latest information and consultations. And for information from Notts CC and Bassetlaw DC*
- The Village Hall sessions on Tuesdays continue, as do the Bassetlaw Mobile Community Shop on Mondays.

• **PLEASE follow the procedure for using the Defibrillator, Call 999 first.**

• Dogs and cars are **NOT** allowed on the Croft or in the Village Hall, unless an organised dog event, **PLEASE CLEAR YOUR DOG 'POO', including the Whinze !**

• **The guards around the new trees on the Whinze / Gibbet Hill are vital, please do not remove them!!!**

• But do you know of any vandalism either.

Watch out, there's a thief about !!

• *Go to Tesco at Worksop, use your token to vote for the Scrooby Children's prize !*

• Why is it quiet without the Church Bells?

• **There is still a vacancy for a Parish Councillor – is that you??? If so contact the Parish Clerk. (parishcouncil@scrooby.net, or 07974836978)**



We need more volunteers for both of our groups!
Please get in touch if you can help, whether regularly or on occasion (contact details below).



Ripples Baby and Toddler Group

Mondays 10am to 11.30am at Ranskill Church (term time).

£2 per child to include drinks and light snacks for child and adult.



Ripples Social Group (Dementia friendly)

2nd and 4th Tuesdays 1.30pm - 3pm at Scrooby Village Hall.

(and on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays run by Scrooby PC)



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plus optional games and activities.



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WARM SPACES IN SCROOBY 2025



Ripples and **Warm Spaces** are in Scrooby Village Hall.

Ripples happens on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, and Warm Spaces on the first, third and fifth.

If you would like a little time out in pleasant company with a cup of tea and cake, please join us.

Both are open to everyone.

Tuesdays 1.30pm to 3.00pm

There is no charge but a small donation towards costs would help.

Dates for the next few months are:

October 7th October 21st

November 4th November 18th

December 2nd December 16th

All are welcome



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MINUTES of the RANSKILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at the BOWLS CLUB, STATION ROAD

WEDNESDAY 23RD JULY 2025 at 7:30pm

Present:

Chair: D. Simpson

Councillors: J. Peel, J. Elliott

D. Cllr: A. McCullum

C. Cllr: Absent

Clerk: B. Kinsey

Members of the public: Two residents attended

01/0725: Apologies for absence: Cllrs A. Bing, A. Garner, P. Brown, L. Shaw, M. Pryce, C. Cllr M, Robertson

02/0725: Declaration of member's interest in any item to be discussed:
None

03/0725: To Adjourn to Allow Public Participation

One resident presented plans to create and link existing family friendly footpaths around the village. They will work with the footpath officer at the County Council. Councillors offered their full support and the Clerk will provide copies of previous work on this subject.

A representative of The Star attended to offer a new layout for PC minutes, the last two issues have been difficult to read. It was agreed to adopt a new layout which preserves a readable font size.

04/0725: Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 9th June 2025

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th June 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

05/0725: County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

a. District Councillor

Our new D. Cllr Andrew McCullum introduced himself.

b. County Councillor

Absent, a written report was received.

The County Council is moving towards forming a unitary authority.

For parish issues, the C.Cllr is collaborating with residents to amend traffic flow on Blyth Road. Discussions are underway with Highways to conduct a width survey, clear foliage around signage and ascertain which further speed reduction measures can be implemented.

06/0725: Crime and Policing

The latest published figures for May showed only 1 crime, average of 6.0/month for the year.

07/0725: Highways and Traffic

a. Update on the Community Speed Watch local group formation.

The previous volunteers are all being contacted. An appeal will be placed on the website.

08/0725: Finance

a. To approve the bank reconciliation and accounts as at 30th June 2025 Summary accounts and bank reconciliation were approved, proposed by Cllr. Peel and seconded by Cllr. Elliott. **Carried.** The invoices for the solar lighting project have been received from DW Windsor, a total of £17,7842.48. It was resolved by all Councillors to pay this amount in August. **Carried.**

NatWest are increasing their bank charges, the Clerk will provide an analysis for the next meeting.

b. To consider a funding request from North Notts Community Responders It was resolved to offer a S137 grant of £175.00 to this organisation.

c. To consider an annual contribution to The Star

In the light of improving the layout and maintaining a stable management team, it was resolved to now pay last year's grant overdue at £725.00 with immediate effect.

Carried.

09/0725: Planning

a. To consider new planning applications received as at 23rd July 2025
Two new applications have been received, 25/00722/HSE St Barnabus Church and 25/00755/HSE Folly Nook Bungalow. Councillors had no objections to either application.

b. Updates on existing planning applications and other planning issues. There are concerns about continuing development and engineering works on a track at Deepwater Fisheries. We are in touch with BDC Planning Enforcement.

10/0725: Amenities and Facilities

a. Consider the playground monthly safety reports

The July monthly BDC report stated one minor fault. The PC has also received the annual independent inspection report. Only low or very low risks were mentioned for all pieces of equipment.

b. Update on the new piece of playground equipment

The tree climber has now been delivered and is in North Notts yard, who expect to commence installation during the second week of August.

c. To consider a potential fully funded new piece of equipment for the playground

An opportunity to have a monkey challenge play climber fully funded was approved by Cllrs, the first step is to prove that a demand exists by publicising on Facebook. The supplier will carry out the funding application.

d. Update on the access across PC land at the rear of Station Cottage
The PC needs a certified copy of the original deed. The Clerk has been in touch twice with the solicitor who has not responded to our request.

e. Update on the path lighting project for Oaks Green Close and Jubilee way
The columns and lighting have now been delivered. North Notts will install, pending a search for utilities in the area.

f. Parking on Cherry Tree Walk for school drop offs and collections
The PC has received some complaints regarding inconsiderate parking. We have contacted the head at Ranskill Primary School who has asked parents to be more considerate. We have also notified our local police, who will attend when possible. Other suggestions need to be examined with our County Councillor, who was absent, we will brief him on this issue.

g. To consider a suggestion from a resident for a bike track

The land at the other side of the railway crossing adjacent to Birch wood is privately owned. The Chair is attempting to contact the owner through the holding company. We can't progress until we establish contact. In any case the PC does not have sufficient funds to construct this scheme.

h. To consider a complaint from a resident regarding Back Lane
A complaint has been received from a resident regarding these long standing issues of access and land ownership. Both are land registry issues beyond the PC's remit.

11/0725: Co-option of Additional Councillors

There is one remaining vacancy for a Parish Councillor, the PC requests any resident who is interested to contact the Clerk.

12/0725: Correspondence and Other Items of Interest

None

13/0725: Information to be Forwarded to the Next Meeting

Bank charges.

14/0725: Agree Dates for the Next Parish Council Meetings

10th September and 8th October 2025.

Signed as a true record: -

SPEEDING VEHICLES ON RANSKILL'S ROADS



Speeding vehicles along the roads of our village is a continuing concern for residents. The Parish Council receives many complaints, this your opportunity to help combat this issue.

A new volunteer group is being formed in an approved scheme fully supported by the Nottinghamshire Police.

The Parish Council is asking for volunteers

Full training will be provided by the Police.

Results will be fed back to the local Neighbourhood Policing Team who are committed to sending out notice letters to selected speeders and followed up with a visit for persistent offenders.

The group will act as a strong deterrent to speeding traffic through the village as well as being supported by the local Neighbourhood Policing team.

Make the village a safer place to live.

Email: clerk@ranskillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 07305 129849

Become a Ranskill Parish Councillor

PARISH COUNCILLOR – VACANCIES

- Do you have a few spare hours per month?
- Do you want to be involved with your community?
- Do you want to help shape the village?
- If yes, then apply to become a Parish Councillor.

Two vacancies exist on the Parish Council. If you would like to become more involved with your community by serving as a councillor, please apply by email to the Clerk providing brief background details and stating why you'd like to join the Council.

If you require any further information, please contact the Clerk to the Council, Bryn Kinsey

Please also see our website for more information: Ranskill www.ranskillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Email: clerk@ranskillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 07305 129849

last words



As we edge closer to Halloween, there's something fitting about the fact that our village's most frightening spectres aren't ghouls or ghosts, but the everyday terrors of modern life.

We've been keeping an ear to the ground on local social media chatter, and for those sensible souls who've managed to avoid the endless scroll it often pulls people into, here's what's got tongues wagging.

First up in our chamber of horrors: the spine-chilling tale of teenagers daring to exist in public. It seems three young lads were spotted having the absolute audacity to stand on a street corner. The horror!

Someone was so terrified by this vision of youth in dark hoodies that they rang the police, though thankfully cooler heads prevailed in the digital discussion that followed. One parent pointed out what should be blindingly obvious: that teenagers wearing dark clothing and walking around their own village isn't actually a crime, despite what some might hope.

There's something rather touching about the maternal instinct that kicked in – a mum defending her son's right to simply be a teenager in his own neighbourhood. It's a reminder that sometimes the most suspicious thing about a group of young people is absolutely nothing at all.

Next in our gallery of ghoulish behaviour: the great dog poo paradox has reared its ugly head again. Someone's noticed the peculiar habit of fellow dog walkers who dutifully scoop up after their four-legged friends, only to hurl the bagged offering into the nearest hedge.

The mathematics of this behaviour is truly more terrifying than any horror film – if you're going to bag it, surely taking it home is the obvious next step? Instead,

we're creating a new ecological nightmare: biodegradable dog mess wrapped in non-biodegradable plastic, dangling from hedgerows everywhere.

One practical soul suggested simply burying the evidence and skipping the plastic altogether. Revolutionary thinking, really – imagine, dealing with natural waste in a natural way.

Finally, our most blood-curdling discovery: community spirit is alive and well, even if it occasionally comes with a side helping of industrial-strength language. When someone described inconsiderate dog owners using words that would make a sailor blush, it was clear that passions run high on the subject of pet responsibility. The sentiment behind the colourful vocabulary was spot on, but we won't be repeating it in a family publication.

The social media thread concluded with helpful suggestions about where to find yoga classes and local cake makers – proof that even when we're at

our most exasperated with each other, we're still fundamentally a community that looks out for one another.

If we can't have a good moan about teenagers being teenagers and dog walkers being inconsiderate, what's the point of village life? It's these small irritations, shared and aired, that remind us we're all in this together – even when we're driving each other absolutely mad.

8	2	4	6	7	9	5	3	1
7	5	3	2	1	8	6	9	4
6	1	9	5	3	4	8	2	7
2	9	6	4	5	1	7	8	3
4	3	8	7	2	6	1	5	9
5	7	1	9	8	3	2	4	6
1	8	7	3	9	2	4	6	5
9	4	2	1	6	5	3	7	8
3	6	5	8	4	7	9	1	2

Quiz answers: 1. Monster Mash 2. Black cat 3. Jack-o-Lantern 4. True 5. Samhain 6. Romania 7. Barmbrack 8. Vincent Price 9. Donovan 10. Victor 11. Mice 12. Cabbage 13. New York City 14. Samhainophobia 15. Scream 16. Jack Skellington 17. A Witch and a Cat 18. The Cranberries 19. A Warlock 20. Werewolf

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