



the STAR

May 2026
Issue 483

**Blooming
lovely!**

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tractors roll
into villages
for charity**

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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



May is finally here, and with it comes that uniquely British combination of hope and suspicion. After Storm Dave treated us to an Easter weekend of fallen trees and airborne wheelie bins, we've learned not to take the weather's good moods for granted.

But there's one thing we can always rely on, rain or shine, storm or sunshine: our brilliant team of distributors. Which brings us to the real reason we're writing this month's introduction.

We'd like to take a moment to celebrate the heroes who make The STAR possible each month. Our distributors – that dedicated team of volunteers who walk the streets of Scrooby, Torworth, and Ranskill no matter what the weather – deserve far more recognition than they receive.

Every month, these wonderful people freely give up their time to ensure this magazine reaches every household. They're the reason you're reading this now (or you're one of them, in which case hello and thank you!), and their commitment to keeping our community connected is genuinely remarkable.

Which is why we're hosting an afternoon tea for all our distributors at St Barnabas Church on Saturday, 30th May 2026, from 2pm to 4pm. It's our way of saying thank you for the essential work they do. If you're a distributor, please save the date and let Paula know if you can come: 01777 818568 or 07946 915008.

As always, send your stories to copy4star@yahoo.co.uk – we want to hear what's happening in your corner of our villages.

George

the knowledge

Wednesday (Memory) Group: The Power of Conversation

In an increasingly digital world, the simple act of "sitting down for a chat" has become the cornerstone of a vital local support network. The Wednesday (Memory) Group is proving that for those living with dementia, the best medicine is often found in the company of friends.

One of the most rewarding aspects of a long-standing community group is the deep-rooted connections that form over time. It is now a common and heartening sight to see members, who first met through the club, coordinating their own lunches or meeting for coffee in town.

However, as we age, the path to making new friends often becomes fraught with obstacles. A decrease in mobility can lead to isolation, while the natural deterioration of sight and hearing can chip away at a person's social confidence. For those dealing with dementia-related forgetfulness, the fear of a misplaced name can make entering a new conversation feel like a daunting task.

The Wednesday Group has adapted its very structure to meet this fundamental human need for connection. Since resuming meetings post-pandemic, organisers noticed that members were arriving earlier and earlier, eager to talk before the formal programme began.



In response, the group now puts the kettle on thirty minutes ahead of schedule. The first hour of every meeting is now dedicated entirely to "chat and catch-up" time -- an essential routine involving tea, biscuits, and the shared exchange of life's joys and challenges. It is this simple, human interaction that helps members build a supportive circle of friends, proving that conversation is the ultimate bridge to community.

If you or someone you care for is living with a dementia diagnosis and you feel the Wednesday Group could offer the support and friendship you're looking for, the team would love to hear from you.

To check current availability or to learn more about the group's activities, please contact Jan on 01777 709974 or 07969 180067. Alternatively, you can email janwilliamson133@gmail.com.

Wildlife Trust looks forward to summer of adventure in great outdoors

Following a successful winter season of indoor talks at Idle Valley, the North Nottinghamshire Local Group of the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust is trading the lecture hall for the great outdoors as they unveil their 2026 summer programme.

The group recently celebrated the conclusion of their latest talk series, which saw consistently strong attendance and welcomed several new regular faces.

In a heartening display of community-led conservation, a modest profit generated from entry fees has been used to purchase swift boxes. These are currently being installed on buildings at the Idle Valley Nature Reserve, providing a vital boost to local wildlife.

While the 2026–27 winter programme is already taking shape with a fresh selection of speakers, members are now gearing up for a busy summer of field visits and activities. Highlights to look forward to include a guided walk through Ploughman Wood led by Michael Walker, a scenic trip along the River Trent, and -- in a much-anticipated twist -- a session of "pond dipping for grown-ups."

You do not need to be a member of the Trust to join in the excitement. Residents are encouraged to sign up for email updates to ensure they receive full details on upcoming talks and summer excursions directly to their inbox.

For more information on summer activities or to join the mailing list, please contact Jan on 07969 180067 or email janwilliamson133@gmail.com

Useful contacts



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Hannah Kenny
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Torworth & Ranskill &
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Stephen Cole:
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Bassetlaw Cardiac Sup-
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Christine Coldwell
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Ranskill Top Shop:
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McCallum

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PCSO Lucy Campion
07525 989445

Vintage tractors roll into our villages for charity

The morning of 19th April 2026 brought an unusual and nostalgic sight to the lanes of North Nottinghamshire as a spectacular convoy of 98 vintage tractors set off from Sturton-Le-Steeple. The impressive fleet was embarking on a 25-mile trek through the picturesque villages of Bassetlaw, all in the name of two very worthy causes.

This year's tractor run was organised to raise vital funds for the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire Air Ambulance and a local churches charity.

The response from the community was nothing short of overwhelming; by the end of the day, over £2,500 had been raised, with further donations still rolling in to bolster the final total.

The event was the result of months of meticulous planning by organiser Dan Bartle. In a fun twist that kept participants on their toes, Dan kept the scenic route a closely guarded secret until the very last moment, ensuring the journey was a pleasant surprise for everyone involved.





The highlight for many local residents was the midday stop in Torworth. Villagers turned out in force to wave the convoy through the village before the tractors congregated for a well-earned lunch at Moat Farm Barns.

The farm became a temporary hub of activity as families and enthusiasts gathered in the April sunshine to admire the historic machinery and grab a bite to eat.

Events like these truly highlight the wonderful community spirit that thrives in our corner of the world. A huge "thank you" must go to the organisers, stewards, and the many lunchtime volunteers who kept everything running smoothly.

Special thanks are also extended to the Helliwell family for their hospitality in hosting the lunch stop at Moat Farm.

Scrooby Garden Club enjoys its first seasonal outing

Spring has well and truly arrived in Scrooby, with local gardens bursting into blossom and the Scrooby Garden Club kicking off its 2026 programme with a successful first excursion.

Members recently enjoyed the club's first outing of the year to Hooton's Walled Nursery on Doncaster Road, Hooton Roberts.

Despite the blustery weather, the group received a very warm welcome. The nursery was a hive of activity, also playing host to a large group of students from Sheffield University who were attending a lecture in the site's expansive greenhouses.

The visit provided plenty of inspiration, with members perusing the extensive nursery stock before enjoying coffee in 'The Shed.'

Many attendees made the most of the visit, returning home with car boots filled with new plants for their own gardens.



To round off the trip, the group crossed the road to enjoy lunch at the Earl of Stafford.

Closer to home, the club recently hosted a plant swap and brunch.



The event was well attended, with members reportedly very satisfied with the new additions to their plant collections. The club's next event is Community Gardens, taking place at 10am on Saturday 16th May. All residents are welcome to come along and lend a hand. If you are interested in joining the club or would like more information, please contact Stephen on 07341 386050.



It's back! Ranskill & Torworth Festival returns for 2026

The countdown is officially on for the much-loved Ranskill & Torworth Festival, returning to Ranskill Park on Saturday 13th June.

The gates open at 1pm, kicking off a fun-filled afternoon for all ages. This year's programme is packed with live entertainment, including a brass band, cheerleading performances, a school choir, and a display from a local dance school.

Traditional children's races will be back in action, alongside go-karts, inflatables, face painting, and even a special visit from a fire engine (emergencies permitting!).

Expect a fantastic range of local businesses and community groups, with stalls from Bunnies Bakes, Flowers by Kay, jewellery, stationery, and a dedicated plant stall. Local organisations including the Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies, WI, and Ranskill Bowls Club will also be joining in the fun with various games and a classic tombola.

No festival is complete without great food and drink, and visitors can enjoy a hog roast, fresh pizza, and a cake and coffee stall. The Blue Bell at Ranskill will also be on hand running a licensed bar throughout the day.

The event is proudly supported by Bright-green Spinal Health, and Ranskill Parish Coun-

cil has kindly funded two event shelters for visitors to relax in. Organisers are still looking for volunteers, raffle prizes, and plant donations. If you would like to help out or require more information, please contact Hannah Kenny on 07980 949824 or email ranskillandtorworthfestival@gmail.com.

A special 'Thank You' to our STAR distributors

Every month, a dedicated team of volunteers freely gives up their time to deliver the STAR magazine to all the homes in Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill.

Your time and effort are very much appreciated and so the STAR would like to invite you all to afternoon tea at St Barnabas Church on Saturday 30th May 2026, from 2pm–4pm.

We very much hope you will join us, so please save the date in your diary. It is our way of saying thank you for the vital work you do in keeping our community connected.

RSVP for Catering For catering purposes, please let Paula know if you are coming: 01777 818568 or 07946 915008



Penny Trail raises £2,704

Don't worry, we're not going backwards!

"The figures published in the April issue of theSTAR were actually for February 2026," said organiser Joy Tudberry. "Those should have read: £2,699, which is the equivalent of 3 miles and 865 yards.

"For our May update, I am delighted to say the total now stands at £2,704. This means we have reached 3 miles and 878 yards.

"YES! That leaves us with just 8 yards to go to reach that elusive next half-mile milestone! Watch this space!"

Scrooby Horticultural & Craft Show

5th September 2026

All you growers out there, here is advance notification of the categories for this year's show.

Vegetable & Fruit Classes

- 4 culinary apples with stalks all the same variety
- 4 dessert apples with stalks all the same variety
- Plate of fruit any one variety soft fruit with stalks



Bowl of soft fruit

6 runner beans

6 dwarf beans

3 desert pears

3 carrots with 3" tops washed

Cucumber with 1" stalk

Heaviest marrow

3 white onions 8oz and under, clean, dry with no tops

Longest runner bean

3 white potatoes washed

3 coloured potatoes washed, include those with just coloured eyes

4 tomatoes of any type

5 cherry tomatoes with stalks all same variety

Chilli peppers, one dish of 6, over 75mm length, to include some stem



Flowers

3 perennial Aster stems in a vase

Orchid (any kind) in flower in a pot

Bowl of 6 floating flower heads any variety

1 specimen rose any variety in a specimen vase

1 specimen rose for perfume in a specimen vase

1 Sunflower in a pot - largest seed head

1 Sunflower in a pot - tallest measured from soil to highest point

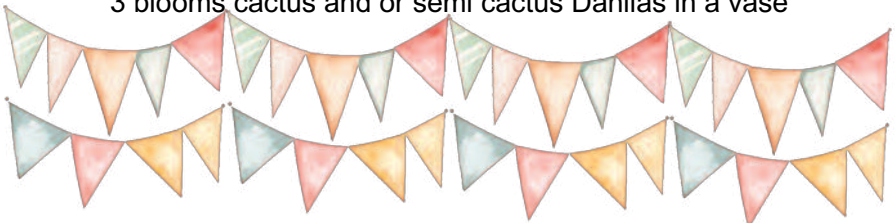
Foliage house plant in a pot

1 specimen flower any variety in a vase

Vase of garden Dahlias, no foliage

1 giant or large Dahlia bloom in a vase

3 blooms cactus and or semi cactus Dahlias in a vase



Calling all canine companions for charity Fun Dog Show event

Get ready to put your best paw forward! On Sunday 31st May 2026, the Rossington Hall RDA will be hosting a Fun Dog Show to raise vital funds for their life-changing work.

Taking place at the Rossington Hall RDA (National Horseracing College) on Great North Road, Doncaster, the event is set to be a fantastic day out for four-legged friends and their owners alike. Registration opens at 10.30am, with a variety of light-hearted classes designed to celebrate every kind of dog.

Whether your pet is a Best Puppy (up to 12 months), a Best Junior (12 months – 5 years), or a Best Veteran (5 years and older), there is a category for everyone. Other classes include Prettiest Girl, Most Handsome Boy, Best Rescue, Best Pedigree Breed, Best Cross Breed, Waggiest Tail, and Most Appealing Eyes.

For those who can't quite decide, the judge will also be looking for the "Dog the Judge would most like to take home."

Entries are £3 per class or 3 classes for £8. Rosettes will be awarded up to 3rd place, and all 1st place winners will go forward to compete for the prestigious "Best in Show" title.

The event will be held in the indoor arena, ensuring the fun continues whatever the weather.



Alongside the main ring, visitors can browse various stalls and enjoy refreshments throughout the day.

All proceeds go directly to Rossington Hall Riding for the Disabled (RDA). This independent group, based just outside Bawtry, enables children and adults with physical, sensory, or learning difficulties to enjoy horse-related activities for therapy, achievement, and fun.

Supporting the Event If you would like to support the charity further, stalls can be booked for a donation of just £5 per table.

For more information, to book a stall, or to learn more about the RDA's work, please contact the team on 07535 664853 or email info@rdarossington.co.uk.

Women's Institute to discuss National Resolutions

The focus of this month's gathering will be "The Resolutions." Members will have the opportunity to discuss the key subjects put forward by the National Federation of W.I.s before a formal vote is taken to represent the local branch's voice on a national level.

Meetings are held in St. Barnabas Church, Great North Road, Ranskill, and commence at 2pm. New members and visitors are always welcome to join us for an afternoon of lively discussion and community spirit. For further information, please contact Pat Blatchford on 01777 818519.

Scrooby Horticultural & Craft Show

5th September 2026

and for the cooks, crafters and children -

Culinary

Jam in a clear jar, old labels removed, with waxed disc and cellophane cover

Lemon curd in a clean jar, old labels removed, with waxed disc and cellophane cover

Chutney or pickle in a clean jar, old labels removed, with waxed disc and cellophane cover

3 brown eggs, judged for similarity of shape and colour

Loaf of bread handmade or machine made

3 fruit scones

3 savoury scones

6 squares of parkin

3 vegetable samosas

Bottle of homemade beer



Art and Craft

Picture any medium

Knitted garment

Photograph of landscape

Photograph any subject

Accessory - hat, gloves or socks

Crochet item

Art or craft item



Children's

Kit model

A creature made from fruit or vegetables

Lego construction, not from a kit

Painted stone

Bookmark

Picture any medium 6 years or older

Craft item

Gingerbread man

All comers welcome - you don't have to live in Scrooby!



Easter treats and artistic talent at Tuesday Drop In



The first meeting of the newly merged ‘Ripples meets Warm Spaces’ -- now known as the Tuesday Drop In -- kicked off with a festive flourish this month as members gathered for an Easter-themed afternoon.

The centrepiece of the event was a traditional Simnel Cake, which took pride of place among a spread of extra seasonal goodies. Beyond the refreshments, the afternoon was filled with light-hearted activities, including Easter word searches and a creative egg-decorating session.

The decorated eggs were later judged

Historical Society uncovers local scattered graves

The Retford & District Historical & Archaeological Society invites you to the last lecture of the season. On Wednesday 13th May 2026, guest speaker Judith Goodall will present a fascinating talk entitled “Local Scattered Graves.”

The evening will commence at 7.30pm with the Society’s A.G.M., followed by the main presentation. This is the final meeting before the summer break; lectures will begin again in September 2026.

Meetings are held at Chapelgate Hall (situated behind Grove Street Methodist Chapel). All are welcome to attend. For further information, please contact Joy Tudberry on 01777 818419 or Colin Witham on 01777 702475.





for their artistic flair, with Barbara and Jean being named the day's winners. However, the true highlight for everyone involved remained the group's favourite pastimes: plenty of tea, snacks, and the chance for a good chat and gossip with friends and neighbours.

The Tuesday Drop In offers a welcoming space for anyone in the community looking for company and a friendly atmosphere. If you feel this is something you would enjoy, the group meets every Tuesday afternoon at 1.30pm at Scrooby Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.





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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
(light lunch menu available 12-5pm)
Sunday: 12-6pm

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

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

Sunday - Delicious homecooked Sunday roasts between 12 - 6pm - booking advised to be safe.

Beer garden plans are underway for the warmer weather so keep an eye open for some exciting updates.

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goodtimes

Friday 1st May

Sky Full of Stars: A Tribute to Coldplay, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm.
Kick off the May Bank Holiday weekend with what is widely regarded as the most authentic tribute to Coldplay currently touring. This isn't just a concert; it's an immersive experience designed to mirror the sensory overload of a real Chris Martin-led stadium show. Audience members are provided with synchronised LED wristbands that pulse in time with the music, turning the entire auditorium into a sea of light. Expect pitch-perfect renditions of Viva La Vida, Yellow, Clocks, and Hymn for the Weekend. It's the perfect way to light up a Friday night. Tickets from £24.



We Will Rock You, Majestic Theatre, Retford

Daytime Disco and Racing, Doncaster Racecourse, 4:35pm. Horse racing meets high-energy nostalgia as the Meadowhall Summer Saturday Series launches at Town Moor. Following an afternoon of thrilling flat racing (gates open much earlier at 2:35pm), the exhibition hall transforms into a "Daytime

Disco." It's filled with feel-good party classics and retro hits, allowing you to dance the evening away and still make it home at a reasonable hour for the rest of your Bank Holiday plans. Tickets from £26.

Saturday 2nd May

Harry's 40's Day, Barnby Dun and Kirk Sandall Sports Association Ground, 10:00am – 10:00pm. This poignant and celebratory 1940s weekend is held in honour of Harry Peace, a local young man whose love for history and respect for our veterans left a lasting legacy. The event (which continues until Sunday 3rd May) features re-enactors, vintage stalls, a licensed bar, and food for the whole family. A major highlight is the full-size static Spitfire, and if the weather permits, a potential WWII aircraft flypast. Saturday evening sees the marquee come alive with 40s-style dancing and entertainment. A wonderful community day out for a great cause. Adults £5, Children £2.

Thursday 7th May

RMTC presents: We Will Rock You, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. The Retford Musical Theatre Company (RMTC) returns to the Majestic stage with the global phenomenon written by Ben Elton and Queen. Set in a post-apocalyptic future where individuality is a crime and music is controlled by algorithms, it tells the story of the "Bohemians" who fight to restore the power of rock. Featuring over 20 Queen hits, including Bohemian Rhapsody and We Are The Champions, this is high-octane musical theatre at its best. (Show runs until Saturday 9th May).



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The Unfriend, Cast Theatre, Doncaster

Friday 8th May

The Unfriend, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:15pm. From the brilliant mind of Steven Moffat (Sherlock, Doctor Who), this dark comedy thriller is a masterclass in social awkwardness and suspense. When a polite British couple meet a lusty American stranger on a cruise, they make the mistake of inviting her to visit. When she actually turns up, they discover she might be a serial killer. The dilemma? How to get rid of her without being rude. Tickets from £17.50. (Runs until May 10th).

Tubular Bells Live, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm. Celebrate the genius of Mike Oldfield with this note-for-note recreation of his progressive rock masterpiece. Performed by a 10-piece electro-orchestra led by maestro Phil Toms, the show also includes highlights from Moonlight Shadow and Ommadawn. For fans of intricate, atmospheric composition, this is a must-see event. Tickets from £24.

RMTC - We Will Rock You, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. The second night of Queen-fueled rebellion! If you missed opening night, make sure to catch the Bohemians in their quest for freedom. Recommended age 12+.

Saturday 9th May

Doncaster Steampunk Spectacular, Doncaster City Centre, 10:00am start. Don your goggles and brass finery for a day of Victorian eccentricity! The city centre will be taken over by Steampunk enthusiasts, featuring the "Cogkneys" music hall entertainment, Victorian explorers, and daredevil shows. The highlight for many is the promenade from the Miners Statue at 10:00am. This is a free-to-attend event and a dream for local photographers.

Taste of Thailand Music and Food Festival, Elmfield Park, 10:00am. A feast for the senses arrives in Doncaster. This festival brings authentic Thai street food, traditional dancing, and even Thai boxing (Muay Thai) demonstrations to the park. As the afternoon progresses, live music and DJs take the stage for a party atmosphere that lasts into the evening. Tickets £8 (under 12s free).

Doncaster Fake Festival, Sandall Park, 11:45am. The ultimate tribute festival returns to its giant marquee in Sandall Park. This year's lineup is stellar, featuring world-class "fakes" of Elton John, Pulp, Muse, The Rolling Stones, Foo Fighters, and The Killers. It's a full day of professional-grade live music with a licensed bar and a safe, family-friendly vibe. From £25.

Doncaster Knights vs Nottingham (HOME), Castle Park, 3:00pm. Local rugby fans, head down to Castle Park to support the Knights in this crucial home clash against Nottingham. Expect high-intensity action and a great atmosphere in the stands.



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Walk Right Back, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm.

The story of the most successful duo of all time, The Everly Brothers. This concert-based musical follows their rise to fame, their legendary ten-year feud, and their emotional reunion.

Featuring hits like Bye Bye Love, All I Have To Do Is Dream, and Cathy's Clown.



G4 - Phantoms of the Popera, Majestic Theatre, Retford

Wednesday 13th May

G4 - Phantoms of the Popera, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. The UK's No. 1 vocal harmony quartet returns with their most ambitious show yet. Expect spine-tingling ar-

rangements of musical theatre showstoppers from Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables, and Wicked. A VIP Meet & Greet is available at 6:00pm for the ultimate fan experience.

RMTC - We Will Rock You, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 2:30pm & 7:30pm.

Final call for the Bohemians! With both a matinee and an evening performance, there's no excuse to miss this "fist-pumping, foot-stomping" anthem to individuality.

Sunday 10th May

The Big Yorkshire Vinyl Record Fair, Doncaster Dome, 9:00am – 3:00pm. Crate-diggers rejoice! Thousands of records, CDs, and items of music memorabilia will be on sale.

Whether you're looking for a rare 60s pressing or just want to browse for a bargain, this is the region's premier fair for physical music lovers.

Betfred Challenge Cup Semi-Final, Eco-Power Stadium, 4:00pm. A massive double-header for Rugby League fans. The Women's Semi-Final kicks off at 1:00pm, followed by the Men's clash at 4:00pm as Warrington Wolves take on the current holders, Hull KR. Expect a sell-out crowd and high stakes.

Hallgate Chamber Orchestra Concert, St Luke's Church, Rossington, 6:00pm.

For a more serene Sunday evening, join the Hallgate Chamber Orchestra for an evening of classical favourites in a beautiful acoustic setting.

The Unfriend, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 2:00pm. The final matinee performance of Steven Moffat's hit comedy.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:15pm. The "most phantasmagorical musical" arrives in Doncaster! Based on the 1968 film and Ian Fleming's book, this production features the famous flying car and all the Sherman Brothers hits. A magical night out for all generations. (Runs until May 16th).

Saturday 16th May

Doncaster Art Market, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 9:00am – 3:00pm. Browse and buy unique pieces from local artists and makers. From ceramics to oil paintings, this is a wonderful place to find a one-of-a-kind gift or something special for your own home.

Queenz Live After Racing, Doncaster Racecourse, 3:30pm. A fabulous evening of flat racing followed by a performance from the "Queenz" -- the trailblazing vocal drag group. Expect high-energy pop hits and dazzling costumes. Tickets from £21.

Dave vs Goliath, Eco-Power Stadium, 4:00pm. Heavyweight boxing returns to Doncaster as our very own "White Rhino" Dave Allen faces off against Filip Hrgovic. This is Allen's biggest challenge to date and the atmosphere in the stadium is expected to be electric. Tickets from £30.

Brahms – A German Requiem, Voice of God Fellowship CIC (Former Priory Place Methodist Church), 7:30pm. Presented by the Doncaster Choral Society and the Sheffield Bach Choir. A powerful and moving performance of Brahms' masterpiece in a stunning local venue.

Brit Pop Night, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 7:30pm. Relive the mid-90s with a dedicated tribute night to the sounds of Oasis, Blur, Pulp, and Suede. Dust off your parkas and prepare for a night of nostalgic anthems.

The ELO Experience, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Celebrating the music of Jeff Lynne and the Electric Light Orchestra. With a sensational string section and a stunning light show, this tribute captures the "symphonic rock" sound perfectly. Hits include Mr. Blue Sky, Telephone Line, and Evil Woman.

Tuesday 19th May

Four Weddings and a Funeral, Bawtry Phoenix Theatre, Silver Screen Society. The local film society presents the definitive British romantic comedy. Tickets are £4 and include tea, coffee, and cake served in the interval. No booking required -- just turn up and enjoy the wit of Richard Curtis on the big screen.



The ELO Experience, Majestic Theatre, Retford

Wednesday 20th May

A Night at the Museum, Danum Gallery, Library and Museum, 4:00pm – 7:00pm. A special after-hours event for families. Explore the exhibits after dark with interactive activities and workshops. A great way to engage children with local history and art.

Friday 22nd May

Seven Drunken Nights, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm. Direct from the West End, this show tells the story of The Dubliners. Spanning a career of 50 years, this talented cast brings to life the music of Ireland's favorite sons. Expect The Wild Rover, Molly Malone, and of course, the title track.

Saturday 23rd May

Eve's Trust Legends Match 2026, Eco-Power Stadium, 12:00pm. The annual charity clash between Doncaster Rovers Legends and Manchester United Legends. This is much more than a football match; it's a full family fun day with entertainment, mascots, and a half-time show, all raising money for the Eve Merton Dreams Trust to support local cancer patients.

K-Pop Party, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 6:00pm. An immersive concert experience for fans of BLACKPINK, BTS, and the global K-Pop phenomenon. Featuring live dance crews and a virtual band, it's a high-energy show where the audience can help crown their favorite "icon." Recommended for ages 5+.

Sweet and Sour, Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. The ultimate pop showdown featuring the music of Olivia Rodrigo and Sabrina Carpenter. A high-energy tribute show with a live band and dancers, performing hits like Vampire, Drivers License, and Espresso.



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Sunday 24th May

England's Strongest Man 2026, Doncaster Dome, 12:00pm. Witness incredible feats of strength as the country's strongest athletes compete for the national title. Expect truck pulls, log lifts, and the famous Atlas Stones. A thrilling spectator sport for the whole family.

Clubland Anthems Party, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 2:00pm. A Bank Holiday Sunday party featuring the biggest dance floor hits from the Clubland era. With live PAs and guest DJs, it's a high-energy trip back to the early 2000s.

Monday 25th May

Dinosaur Adventure - Live, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 2:00pm. A Bank Holiday treat for the kids! This interactive stage show allows the audience to meet "real" baby dinosaurs and a T-Rex. It's an educational and exciting quest to save the prehistoric world. "Totally T-rex-iffic!"



Dinosaur Adventure - Live, Majestic Theatre, Retford

Wednesday 27th May

Mean Girls screening, Doncaster Little Theatre, 7:00pm. A special screening of the teen classic. "On Wednesdays we wear pink" -- and this Wednesday is no exception!

Friday 29th May

Creedence Clearwater Review, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. The UK's premier tribute to Creedence Clearwater Revival. Relive the "Swamp Rock" sound of the late 60s and early 70s with hits like Bad Moon Rising, Proud Mary, and Have You Ever Seen The Rain?.

Saturday 30th May

Chuckl. Retford featuring Russell Kane, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. A massive night of comedy headlined by the multi-award-winning Russell Kane. Known for his high-energy delivery and sharp observational humour, Kane is joined by a full supporting

lineup for a night of world-class stand-up. Recommended age 16+.

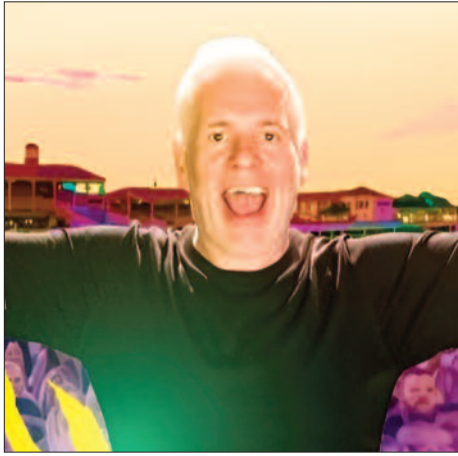
The STAR Distributor Afternoon Tea, St Barnabas Church, Ranskill, 2:00pm – 4:00pm.

A heartfelt "thank you" to all our wonderful volunteers who deliver this magazine. If you're a distributor, come along for tea, sandwiches, and cake -- it's our chance to celebrate you!

Sunday 31st May

Doncaster City
Half Marathon,
9:00am.

Whether you're running or cheering from the sidelines, head down to the cycle track to witness the finish of this city-wide race. A great atmosphere is guaranteed!



Chris Moyles Live After Racing, Doncaster Racecourse

"The Greatest Show"

– Voices of the Vale, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 1:30pm & 6:00pm.

A celebratory 10th-anniversary showcase from the Voices of the Vale Young Performers. This local group has grown from a small village choir to a powerhouse of young talent. Enjoy a selection of songs from the world's most popular musicals.

June Sneak Preview -- Friday 5th June

Victorian Gothic, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Step back into a world of shadows and suspense with this atmospheric production. Perfect for fans of classic horror and historical drama, "Victorian Gothic" promises a night of spine-chilling storytelling and haunting performances.

The Weston Park Race Evening, Doncaster Racecourse, 3:30pm. An evening of top-tier flat racing that supports a vital local cause. This special race meeting raises funds for the Weston Park Cancer Charity, combining the thrill of the turf with the opportunity to give back to the community. Expect a lively atmosphere and plenty of "pink" on display!
Saturday 6th June

Donny Music Festival, Eco-Power Stadium, 11:00am. Get ready for "Donny Fest 2026!" This massive outdoor music event brings a festival vibe to the home of Doncaster Rovers. With a lineup featuring Jamie Webster, Ash, and many more, it's set to be the biggest musical celebration of the summer.

Chris Moyles Live After Racing, Doncaster Racecourse, 11:20am. The Summer Saturday Series continues with an afternoon of racing followed by the "90s Hangover" party.

Radio legend Chris Moyles will be spinning the biggest tracks from the 90s, from Britpop to dancefloor anthems. Note: Gates open at 11:20am; first race at 1:20pm.

80's Vs 90's Night - LIVE, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 7:30pm. Can't decide which decade was better? At the Corn Exchange, you don't have to! A live tribute duo will perform the greatest hits from the neon 80s and the baggy 90s in a high-energy showdown. Tickets £10.

Sunday 7th June

Doncaster Antique Fair, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 9:00am. Start your June with a hunt for hidden treasures. Featuring 24 specialist sellers, this fair offers everything from fine silver to quirky collectables in the historic setting of the Corn Exchange.

Vicky Jackson as PINK, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm. Closing out our preview is the world-renowned Vicky Jackson. Her portrayal of pop icon P!NK is legendary for its energy, authentic vocals, and incredible stage presence. From So What to Trustfall, expect a powerhouse performance that will leave you breathless. Recommended age 18+.



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Your May Star signs



Aries: A sudden urge to rearrange the entire shed to accommodate the lawnmower will hit you this month. You'll spend a sunny Saturday surrounded by rusted tins of paint and mysterious lengths of twine. By sunset, you'll have achieved absolute organisation, even if you can no longer remember where you put the car keys.

Taurus: The arrival of the garden centre's "early summer" promotion is a test of your resolve. You'll go in for a bag of grit and come out with an ornate stone bird bath that requires three strong neighbours to lift. It is a solid investment in your personal landscape that matches your sturdy nature.

Gemini: The appearance of a new "Keep Off The Grass" sign has sparked your curiosity. You'll spend the month gathering opinions on whose idea it actually was and whether it constitutes a local scandal. Your social network is your greatest asset as you navigate these complex waters.

Cancer: The local birdlife has noticed your generous spirit, and you're now running a high-end bistro for the local blue tits. You'll spend the month fretting over suet ball quality and the cleanliness of the water bath. Taking care of the smaller things brings you deep, quiet satisfaction.

Leo: This month, your garden is your stage. You'll be found directing the growth of your clematis with an impassioned speech and a pair of designer shears. Even the garden gnomes seem to stand a little straighter under your commanding gaze. It's a sign that your natural leadership extends even to the perennials.

Virgo: While others are recklessly planting out tender bedding, you're checking the overnight frost forecast for the fifteenth time. This caution is evidence of superior horticultural wisdom that will be vindicated by June. A tiny bit of smugness is your well-earned reward when the neighbours' petunias inevitably perish under a late cold snap.

Libra: The annual "can I turn the heating off yet" debate reaches a fever pitch in your household. You'll likely end up compromising by wearing three cardigans and a thick pair of slippers while staring longingly at the radiator. Finding the middle ground between thrift and frostbite is your primary May mission.

Scorpio: You've noticed a subtle change in your biscuit selection, and you intend to get to the bottom of it. Your investigative gaze is currently fixed on an explanation about the missing ginger nuts. Nothing escapes your notice, especially when it concerns your daily elevenses.

Sagittarius: A bracing meadow walk sounds idyllic until you encounter the first patch of stinging nettles and a very inquisitive cow. Keep your optimism high and head for the nearest hostelry instead. Your spirit of adventure always requires a liquid reward and a comfortable, cushioned seat by four in the afternoon.

Capricorn: "No Mow May" is a noble concept that clashes violently with your desire for a pristine lawn. You'll compromise by mowing a tiny, perfectly level path through the dandelions, just to prove you haven't completely lost your grip on civilization. Order must be maintained.

Aquarius: An alarming method for scaring pigeons involves old CDs, bits of foil, and a series of discordant wind chimes. The neighbours will undoubtedly wonder about your garage activities, but your prize pea shoots will remain untouched. Your eccentric genius is flourishing as fast as the garden weeds this month.

Pisces: The arrival of the first bumblebees has you mesmerised. You'll spend most of the afternoon trying to identify different species with a heavy book and a cup of tea. While the world frets about the "to-do" list, you are perfectly content to simply sit and be part of the garden.

It may feel like you have a mountain to climb?

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Christian perspective: Generosity

These are astonishingly scary and difficult days we live in. If we listen to the news we mostly hear of wars and abuse, crimes and poverty, and many other unpleasant things.

We must look out for scammers, expect everyone to be doing bad things. We are told everybody is struggling and someone must be to blame, probably the government! We feel there is so much to worry about and someone should give us more.

But when we turn to the Bible we find that one of the aspects of God's character is his amazing generosity of heart towards sinners, on every front and for every situation. It seems everywhere I look in the Bible I find phrases like these: *If any of you lacks wisdom we should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault.* James 1:5. So when we need to know what to do, or what the best way is to approach a situation, we can go to God in prayer and ask him and he will show us the way.

Then we read in John 10:10 Jesus saying, *"I have come that they may have life in full abundance."* So if we have not enough to pay our bills, or see that someone has more than we have. Or when it seems life is dull and without purpose, we can turn to Jesus he will turn things around and show

us the fullness of the life he brings.

When we feel life is joyless and no one cares about us, that we can't do anything worthwhile, we can turn to Paul writing to the Ephesians and find the purposes of God for all who come to him believing in Jesus: *... because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive together with Christ, even when we were dead in our sinfulness.* Ephesians 2:4, 5.



There are many such examples that show us there is not meanness in God, but only great love, rich mercy, abundant life, in fact, all we need. We can confidently trust him to take care of us. Jesus, when speaking to the people in the sermon on the mount in Matthew 6, says, *"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"* He goes on to remind them that God cares for the birds and the flowers, that the people are more important to God than those things and he also knows what we need.

Finally Jesus finishes with this promise: *"But seek first his kingdom and his righteous ness, and all these things will be given to you as well."*

So this is our call in these difficult days to find out how to put the Kingdom of God first in our lives and we can be sure he will provide all we need.

** Brenda Critchley*

Your May Sudoku puzzle

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 46.

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



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Your May STAR pop-up pub quiz

1. Which desert spans Angola, Namibia and South Africa?
2. Where is the fastest sinking city in the world located?
3. Which country is located in the geographical centre of Europe?
4. What is the most forested country in the world?
5. What is the capital city of the United Arab Emirates?
6. Bratislava is the capital city of which country?
7. What three colours feature on the flag of Germany?
8. Vienna lies on which river?
9. Saint Peter Port is the capital of where?
10. What animal features on the flag of Sri Lanka?
11. Is Holy Island off the east or west coast of England?
12. Which island is in the Bay of Naples?
13. The province of Flanders is in which country?
14. In which ocean is Fiji?
15. Which sea is to the north of Wales?
16. Is Japan in the northern or southern hemisphere?
17. Which country occupies the Horn of Africa?



18. What is the world's smallest, flattest and lowest continent?
19. In which European country would you spend a forint?
20. In which two countries is the Dead Sea?

Answers on page 46.

Church notices for May

*Church Notices for March 2026
(CW = Common Worship, HC = Holy Communion, BCP = Book of Common Prayer)*

**Sunday 3rd, Scrooby – 9.30am
CW HC. Sunday 10th, Blyth – 9.30am
CW HC. Sunday 17th, Ranskill – 9.30am. This service will be led by the Right Reverend Dr Andy Emmerson Bishop of Sherwood. All are welcome to join us.
Sunday 24th, Scrooby – 9.30**

**CW HC, Blyth – 10.30am Family Service
Sunday 30th, Blyth – 9.30am
CW HC**

If you would like to arrange a baptism, wedding, funeral or other function, please contact one of the churchwardens:

Churchwarden - Ranskill:
David Stacey 07865 887280
Church Warden – Scrooby:
Gordon Ashworth 01777 818322



It's Springtime!

The sun reflects in a crocus face,
A bumbling bee spreads her wings of lace.
As Nature gently gathers pace –
For Springtime

The birds are busy at each nest
Where eager fledglings soon will test
Their tiny wings with trembling breast
In Springtime

As bluebells dance with heads so proud –
A joyous, jubilant, jostling crowd –
The daffodils will trumpet loud
To Springtime

How much we try to understand
The work of such a wondrous Hand!
God's imprint on a wakening land,
It's Springtime

Joy T.



The STAR recipe: Butternut Squash Soup

Ingredients

- 2 x 900gm squashes
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 pints stock (vegetable or chicken)
- 50gm butter
- ½ cup crème fraiche (or to taste)
- Fresh ginger, chopped (to give 2 tbsp)
- Nutmeg, salt & pepper to taste
- Croutons (to serve)

Method

- Skin, deseed and coarsely chop the squashes.
- Fry for 5 minutes in the butter with the chopped ginger and onion.
- Stir frequently until the mixture looks glossy.
- Add the stock to cover the vegetables and season well with salt and pepper.
- Bring to the boil, then lower the heat and simmer for 5–10 minutes until the vegetables are tender.
- Add the crème fraiche and nutmeg, then liquidise until smooth.
- Serve hot with a handful of crunchy croutons.





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The outdoor season has just started. We play in our own club league on Thursday evenings from 6pm, and on Saturday afternoons for cup matches or just to meet socially. Nevertheless, if you have a couple of hours spare on either of these days then why not come down and give the game a try. You will be assured of a warm welcome. For more details contact Simon on 07876 285593. Our pavilion is also available to hire.

ABRIDGED DRAFT MINUTES OF SCROOBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 16th February in the Scrooby Village Hall

- 1. Present :** Chair Stephen Cordery, Jean Ogden, Sandra Withington, Terry Goldsmith, Dan Blount, Tony Smith (Clerk & Treasurer), Parishioners / Public present: None.
- 2. Apologies** Elaine Gargett, Lindsey Buxton, County Cllr Mike Robertson, District Councillor Jack Bowker,
- 3. Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Minutes were accepted, No corrections - Proposed by Jean Ogden, Seconded by Terry Goldsmith
- 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, Websites, Church Clock, replacing the Climbing Ladders posts and frame, re-establish contact with BCVS and follow up on the Jazz Event.
- 4. Agenda**
 - 4.1 Confirmation of Agenda Items – 2 notes, 1 added to the agenda (Donation Request). (See below).
 - 4.2 Public Discussion – None
- 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: Bassetlaw Playing Pitch Survey, Free Electric Blanket test/replace, and the creation of a Voluntary Sector Development Team for Children.
 - 5.2 The Bassetlaw Spring Clean (end of March), noted we usually hold our own with the children.
- 6. District and County Councillor's Report**

County Councillor – Was unable to attend. The main Budget setting meeting set for 26.02.2026. Walks around the village in 2026 to see what needs to be done and progress on the inspection of the Great North Road Footpath.

District Councillor Jack Bowker – Was unable to attend, noted the BDC consultations on Local Govt Reforms.
- 7. Finance Report**
 - 7.1 The Treasurer presented his report, which included Village Hall costs and Quarterly salaries, Lottery and Music License and the Whinze grass / bracken cutting. Full details of the report can always be viewed at www.Scrooby.net
 - 7.2 Other activities: The transfer of the V Hall electricity is complete. Steve Cordery reported the Community Cinema has closed due to lack of use, agreed to place all funds with the Parish Council. Agreed to make an annual donation of £300 to the STAR to keep that newsletter active.
 - 7.2.3 The funding from Tesco Workshop was successful to work to complete the project.
 - 7.2.4 The annual Scrooby Precept was set at an increase of 4.5% or £3.22 per annum.
 - 7.2.5 The payment of the PPL/PRS charge was agreed to enable live and recorded music at Parish events.
- 8. Police Report.** Local PCSO Tel 07525 989445, did not attend. PCSO continues to be requested to attend. There was a record of a theft with resident present, all are reminded to be vigilant of con men.
- 9. Planning & Neighbourhood Plan**
 - 9.2 Planning issues: New Applications: 24/01434/FUL, 6 new caravans at the caravan site. Agreed OK but... enforce the residency rules and note that equates to 25% of the parish that do not contribute to the Parish with council taxation.

Existing applications: Rosedale granted, Parting Shires Farm change of use granted.

 - 9.3 Others: Our own SNAP plan is to be restarted in the New Year until completed.
- 10. Play Area**

The Rope Climbing Frame repairs are costly and so is a replacement. Funding is being sought.

11. Village Hall

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

11.1.3 Village Hall Management System, Keys and Equipment – in progress.

11.1.4 The Society of Mayflower Descendants in Europe are to hold their conference in the Scrooby Village Hall on 4th July. Publicity and a possible event are under discussion.

12. Village Environment

12.0 Noted the STEP Fusion consultation.

12.0.4 Village Hedges, the Great North Road footpath continues.

12.0.5 Publicity re. Right of Way and Sheep Worring will be posted on the Parish website www.scrooby.net

12.0.6 Litter and “dumping” remain an issue but the Gardening Club will still

maintain their Street Cleaning operations.

12.1 Grass Cutting, continues. The “bush” in the centre of The Croft will now be removed..

12.2 The development of The Whinze and Gibbet Hill Common – Joint work with the Gardening Club to remove any Himalayan Balsam weed is in progress over the summer.

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

14. Items for Information Only / Next Agenda

14.1 None

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

Next meeting to be held on Monday, 9th March 2026, 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 If concerned contact your Parish Councillor.

→ **Scrooby had a home invasion, be careful who you let in!**

→ 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.

→ 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 Use the “MyNotts” smartphone app !!!!

→ 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 !**

→ Is your black wheely bin full yet!! It is for glass BUT it will not be emptied until March 2026 and every 6 weeks after that. Can you last that long???

→ But do you know of any vandalism either. Watch out, there’s a thief about !!

→ Would you like any basic First Aid / CPR training?

→ Advice on trimming hedges or trees - call the Clerk.

→ Be warned SNAP is coming back (The Scrooby Neighbourhood Action Plan), to get it over the finish line.

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Web: www.whitegatescattery.co.uk

Email: whitegatescattery@gmail.com



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& landscaping**

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Flooring | Doors
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maintenance

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Most jobs considered

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TUESDAY DROP IN

Ripples and Warm Spaces are excited to announce that we are joining forces to invite you to our new Tuesday Drop In, every Tuesday afternoon from 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome!

WHAT TO EXPECT

Cake

Every week we have lots of delicious baked treats to tempt you. Can't choose? Have a bit of everything!

Cuppas

We have a range of drinks on offer, from regular tea and coffee, to herbal teas or squash if you prefer a cold drink.

Company

Enjoy time with others, whether you want to play dominoes, cards, do a wordsearch or just have a good chat.

No Commitment

There's no need to book in advance - just turn up.

No Cost

We don't charge, but we do gratefully accept donations towards running costs.



**TUESDAYS
1.30PM
ONWARDS**

**SCROOBY
VILLAGE HALL**

LOW ROAD, SCROOBY,
DN10 6AJ



MINUTES of the RANSKILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at the BOWLS CLUB, STATION ROAD

WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2026 at 7.30pm

Present:

Chair: D. Simpson

Councillors: J.Elliott, P. Brown, L. Shaw, J. Peel

D. Cllr:Absent

C. Cllr:Absent

Members of the Public: No resident attended

01/0226: Apologies for absence: D. Cllr A. McCallum, C. Cllr M. Robertson, Cllrs M. Pryce, A. Garner

02/0226: Declaration of Member's interest in any item to be discussed: None

03/0226: To adjourn to Allow Public Participation: None

04/0226: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th of January 2025.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th of January 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

05/0226: County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

- a. District Councillor: Absent
- b. County Councillor

A written report was received. The proposed council tax rise is 3.99%. Two JCB

pothole pro's are being purchased to speed up road repair. We are waiting for the capital plan to be published for the coming year. New signage is expected on both ends of Blyth Road to discourage HGV traffic. A request has been made to study traffic light phasing at the crossroads to try to reduce accidents. An inspection of Folly Nook Road has been requested for road resurfacing and repair.

06/0226: Crime and Policing

The latest available figure was 6 crimes in December, giving an average of 5.3 for 2025, compared with 9.1 for the previous year.

07/0226: Highways and Traffic

Parking at the school remains an ongoing issue, parents again are requested to park their vehicles in a considerate manner. HGV traffic on Blyth Road continues to cause issues to residents and our C. Cllr has this issue in hand.

08/0226: Finance

- a. To approve the bank reconciliation and accounts as at 31st January 2026. Summary accounts and bank reconciliation were approved.

Carried.

A new allocation of CIL funds is expected

shortly from BDC.

b. To consider assistance needed to finalise establishing gov email accounts. The Clerk will circulate new account registration instructions.

09/0226:Planning

a. To consider new planning applications received as at 14th February 2026.

Two new applications have been received. 25/01369/ADV illuminated light box for the Thrive Centre on Great North Road and 25/01536/HSE convert conservatory and erect single storey shower room for the Glen Royal, Great North Road. The PC has no objection to either application.

b. Updates on existing planning applications and other planning issues. There are continuing concerns about development and excavation works on a track at Deepwater Fisheries.

10/0226: Amenities and Facilities

a. Consider the playground safety reports.

The February sheet showed no new issues.

b. Update on our lottery application to fund a new climbing wall. We have been successful in obtaining National Lottery funding of £7,950 for a new piece of playground equipment. The funds have just been received and installation is expected at the end of February.

c. Update on the access across PC land at the rear of Station Cottage. The Clerk has contacted the solicitor again with no

response, a further follow up will be made.

d. Update on the path lighting project for Oaks Green Close and Jubilee Way. The remanufactured luminaries are expected from the manufacturer shortly.

e. To consider extending the Christmas light display to a second tree. The plan is to install a second set of Christmas lights in a neighbouring tree. New electrical works will be necessary to connect the tree and the Clerk is in the process of obtaining quotations from contractors.

11/0226:Co-option of Additional Councillors

The PC requests any resident who is interested to contact the Clerk.

12/0226: Correspondence and Other Items of Interest

Cllrs agreed to donate S137 funds to support the Ranskill & Torworth Festival in June by sponsoring the provision of two marquees, tables and chair rental. The final amount to be decided shortly.

13/0226: Information to be Forwarded to the Next Meeting.

None

14/0226: Agree Dates for the Next Parish Council Meetings

The next meeting is the 11th of February 2026.

Signed as a true record.



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The STAR reaches all residents of Scrooby, Ranskill and Torworth plus outlets in Blyth, Mattersey and Barnby Moor

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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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Telephone Number.....

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Whitton Close	10.40 - 10.55	Station Avenue No 57	13.40 - 14.00
Arundel Drive / Oaks Close	11.00 - 11.40	Torworth Holds Lane	14.10 - 14.25
Arundel Drive No 38	11.45 - 12.15	Torworth Underwood Ave	14.30 - 14.50

Scrooby - Tuesday 19th May

Station Road / Low Road 14.45 - 15.15

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MINUTES of the RANSKILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at the BOWLS CLUB, STATION ROAD

WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2026 at 7.30pm

Present:

is on the 19th of March.

Chair: D. Simpson

Representations are being made regarding the poor repair of the pothole at the Mattersey Road/Great North Road junction. The phasing of the traffic lights at the crossroads is being considered and the County Senior Safety Officer is to inspect the sharp bend on Blyth Road with a view to consider safety measures.

Councillors: J.Elliott, P. Brown, J. Peel A. Garner, M. Pryce

D. Cllr: C. Cllr M. Robertson (part)

C. Cllr: Absent

Clerk: B. Kinsey

The new Councillor's discretionary fund will be available shortly, we are encouraged to apply. The LCF local communities fund is being restricted for the time being to a maximum of £20k, match funded. We intend to apply to renew some older playground equipment.

Members of the Public: No resident attended

01/0326: Apologies for absence: D. Cllr A. McCallum, Cllr L. Shaw

02/0326: Declaration of Member's interest in any item to be discussed: None

03/0326: To adjourn to Allow Public Participation: None

06/0326: Crime and Policing

The latest available figure is 3 crimes in January, giving an average of 5.3 for 2025, compared with 9.1 for the previous year.

04/0326: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th of February 2026.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th of February 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

07/0326: Highways and Traffic

A new bus stop has been installed on Great North Road. Mitigating HGV traffic on Blyth Road continuing to cause issues to residents is in hand by our C. Cllr.

05/0326: County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

a. District Councillor: Absent

08/0326: Finance

a. To approve the bank reconciliation and accounts as at 28th February 2026. Summary accounts and bank reconciliation were approved. Proposed by Cllr Peel and seconded by Cllr Garner. **Carried.**

b. County Councillor: The County Council budget meeting was held on the 26th of February with a precept agreed with an increase of 3.99%. The 3 year capital spending plan is not ready as additional funding is being sought. This will be visible to the public. The next full council meeting

b. To consider assistance needed to finalise establishing .gov email accounts. All Cllrs

have now configured their new email address.

c. To consider the annual grant request from the STAR magazine.. Cllrs agreed to remit the grant this month.

d. To consider deposit account strategy. Cllrs received a written report submitted by the Clerk. In view of the new CIL funds just received, but considering potential capital spending it was decided to place the additional funds in a 95 day notice business account, with a variable interest rate currently 4.1%. In addition, we will close the Natwest reserve account with a much lower rate. Proposed Cllr Peel, seconded Cllr Elliott. **Carried.**

09/0326:Planning

a. To consider new planning applications received as at 14th February 2026.

b. Updates on existing planning applications and other planning issues. There are concerns about continuing excavation works on a track at Deepwater Fisheries. Cllrs have received reports concerning alleged land fill, illegal road building, dumping of waste and visits by Environmental Health and the Police. Planning enforcement has been alerted.

10/0326: Amenities and Facilities

a. Consider the playground safety reports.

The March sheet showed no new issues.

b. Update on the new climbing wall. The new monkey challenge has now been installed.

c. Update on the access across PC land at the rear of Station Cottage. The Clerk has finally had contact with the solicitor. This

matter was discussed and any follow up deferred.

d. Update on the path lighting project for Oaks Green Close and Jubilee Way. The remanufactured luminaries were delivered on the 11th of March. North Notts will install as soon as possible to complete this project.

e. Update on extending the Christmas light display to a second tree. The electric groundworks have now been completed with a new cabinet in the neighbouring tree. Costings were presented to install new lighting. Cllrs decided to remove the existing lights on the original tree and install new lighting on both trees, to ensure a consistent display. The Clerk will arrange a site visit by the installer to progress.

11/0326:Co-option of Additional Councillors

The PC requests any resident who is interested to contact the Clerk.

12/0326: Correspondence and Other Items of Interest

The PC has received a complaint regarding a tree on the green near Lowfield Close but covered by a TPO. The Clerk will commission a risk-benefit survey report by an arboricultural consultant.

13/0326: Information to be Forwarded to the Next Meeting.

None

14/0326: Agree Dates for the Next Parish Council Meetings

The next meeting is the 8th of April 2026.

Signed as a true record.



THE STAR AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the STAR magazine will take place at around 4pm on Saturday May 30th at St Barnabus' Church (after the distributor's tea party).

We welcome all residents of Scrooby, Ranskill and Torworth to come along and put forward their views about the magazine.

If you want to help in the magazine's production in any way, please come and find out what is involved (no obligation!)



We also have a digital edition at the-star.org.uk

Looking for village information, see the village websites:

<https://ranskillparishcouncil.gov.uk>

<https://www.torworth-pc.gov.uk>

<https://www.scrooby.net/parish-council>

<https://www.scrooby.org/>



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last words

May arrives with bluebells, bank holidays, and the vague hope that the decent weather might hold up for a bit longer than a few days. Finally. Please..?

Though after Storm Dave's Easter weekend spectacular – complete with 93mph gusts, snow, and trees coming down across our villages – one hesitates to make any confident predictions about the British spring.

For those who spent Easter weekend cowering indoors while the bins blew about, Storm Dave was named by the Met Office on 2nd April as forecasts showed an increasing risk of "damaging winds and heavy precipitation."

The northern and western parts of the UK bore the brunt of it, and our villages were caught up in the stormy proceedings. Trees came down, though, thankfully, they appear to have been cleared. If any readers know otherwise, do let us know – there's nothing quite like discovering a fallen oak across your usual dog-walking route.

The storm brought a useful reminder that nature doesn't consult the calendar before deciding to dump snow in early April or send 70mph winds across the country. By Easter Monday, high pressure brought improvement, but not before Storm Dave had made its point about who's really in charge of the weather.

But April brought another storm entirely, this one made of poultry-related misinformation. Rumours circulated that cockerels were to be banned in Bassetlaw, and some were unhappy to contemplate a future without the traditional dawn chorus of competitive crowing.

We checked with Bassetlaw District Council and can confirm: cockerels are safe. For now. There is no ban on cockerels, current or pending. This means residents can continue to Cock-a-Doodle-Do with impunity.



If this changes, we'll be the first to let you know when it becomes a case of Cock-a-Doodle-Don't.

On a considerably more cheerful note, 19th April saw 98 vintage tractors leave Sturton-Le-Steeple on a 25-mile journey through the villages of Bassetlaw, stopping in Torworth to congregate for lunch at Moat Farm Barns. The event, raising funds for the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire Air Ambulance and local churches, had already brought in over £2,500 on the day, with more still coming in.

Organiser Dan Bartle had spent months planning a picturesque route which remained secret to all participants – a masterstroke that made the event feel that little bit special.

Torworth villagers waved the tractors through at midday, and many came down to the lunch stop to admire the machines, grab a bite to eat, and enjoy the sunshine. It's the sort of community event that reminds us what village life is really about in our very

special part of the world – people coming together for a good cause, a bit of fresh air, and the simple pleasure of seeing 98 vintage tractors rumbling through the countryside.

May brings longer days, warmer weather (fingers crossed), and the hope that both storms – meteorological and rumour-based – stay well away.

Keep your bins secured and your cockerels crowing.

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

Quiz answers: 1. Namib Desert 2. Jakarta, Indonesia 3. Lithuania 4. Russia 5. Abu Dhabi 6. Slovakia 7. Black, Red and Yellow 8. Danube 9. Guernsey 10. Lion 11. East 12. Capri 13. Belgium 14. Pacific 15. Irish Sea 16. Northern 17. Somalia 18. Australia 19. Hungary 20. Egypt and Jordan

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