

*the*STAR

Serving Scrooby, Torworth & Ranskill since 1984

June 2026
Issue 484

Go on, my sun!

Summer Solstice
and Dad's Day:
A great excuse
for family fun
with the kids!



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Let them eat cake:
Council suspends
street trader policy

Bin app delay as new
recycling rules launch

thismonth

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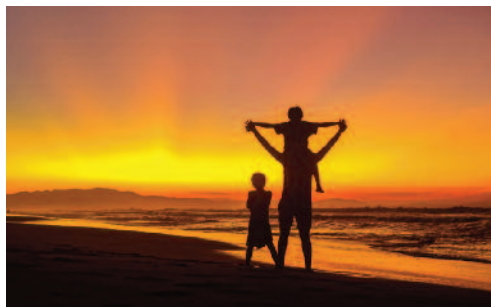
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Have your say

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



June is here, and with it comes a rather lovely cosmic coincidence: Father's Day and the summer solstice fall on the same day this year – Sunday, 21st June. The longest day of the year meeting the celebration of dads everywhere feels appropriately symbolic, doesn't it? Both represent light, warmth, and the quiet steady presence that keeps everything going.

By the time you're reading this, we hope The Star team will have gathered with our wonderful distribution volunteers for afternoon tea at St Barnabas Church. If all went to plan, there should have been cake, conversation, and a proper chance to say thank you to the people who walk our streets every month – rain, shine, or Storm Dave – making sure this magazine reaches every household. We genuinely hope everyone had a lovely time, and if you were there, thank you for coming.

Whether you're planning Father's Day celebrations, enjoying the solstice sunshine, or simply appreciating the fact that it doesn't get dark until practically bedtime, we want to hear what's happening in your corner of our villages. Community events, local achievements, neighbourhood news – it all matters, and we're here to share your stories.

Keep those emails coming to copy4star@yahoo.co.uk, and here's to a beautiful June in Scrooby, Ranskill, and Torworth.

George

the knowledge

Council pauses enforcement on local 'Cake Sheds' after community backlash

Bassetlaw District Council has announced a temporary U-turn on its controversial licensing approach to roadside 'cake sheds and cupboards' following a wave of public backlash from residents across North Nottinghamshire.

The authority has officially paused enforcement of its Street Trader Policy specifically where it relates to small-scale, domestic honesty boxes and cake cupboards. The decision comes after widespread public reaction highlighting the negative impact the strict policy would have on small hobby-traders, alongside the recognized community benefit these independent enterprises bring to rural areas.

Under the temporary pause, local bakers and residents who operate cake sheds or honesty cupboards on their own land will be allowed to continue trading without a Street Trader Licence until further notice.

Cllr June Evans, Cabinet Member for Governance, which includes Legal and Licensing, acknowledged the significant public outcry. "We have seen the public reaction to the introduction of this policy and the impact that it could potentially have on residents who provide 'cake sheds or cupboards'," Cllr Evans said. "We also recognise the community benefit these enterprises can have in some areas."

However, council officials stressed that the Street Trader Licence remains fully in force for all other forms of street trading across the district.



This includes businesses operating from mobile or multiple commercial locations, as well as regular market traders.

The council's Licensing Team will continue to respond to public complaints and monitor safety. The authority has warned it will step in if there are serious concerns regarding food hygiene, electrical, gas, or fire safety, or if an enterprise causes a public nuisance or safeguarding issue.

Traditional rural honesty stalls selling raw eggs, garden vegetables, or cut flowers remain entirely exempt from the policy, as the council deems them to be "surplus goods" arising from normal domestic life rather than commercial street trading.

A comprehensive report is currently being prepared for the council's Licensing Committee to consider at the beginning of June, where councillors will review the wider implications of the policy on both potential traders and the general public.

'Binformation' app delay as new recycling rules launch

Bassetlaw District Council has apologised to residents after the launch of its new 'Binformation' waste and recycling application was hit by technical delays.

The mobile and web app was scheduled to go live in April to guide households through a major recycling shake-up. Designed to feature postcode-specific bin calendars and item eligibility guides, the rollout has been stalled by unexpected delays in securing slots on the official Apple and Android App Stores.

A council spokesperson said: "Unfortunately, it has taken a little longer than expected to have both apps available during April. We're really sorry for this delay and thank residents for their patience while we launch these new services."

Despite the digital setback, the government's nationwide 'Simpler Recycling' initiative is fully operational across Bassetlaw. Households can now place a wider variety of items directly into their existing Blue Bins to help boost national recycling rates to 65% by 2035.

Residents can now recycle the following previously excluded items: Plastic trays and tubes (such as margarine tubs and toothpaste tubes); clean tin foil and metal food trays; and cartons and Tetra Pak packaging

These join existing accepted materials, including plastic bottles, pots, and tubs; paper and cardboard; and tins, cans, and aerosols.

In tandem with the Blue Bin changes, the council is introducing a separate, dedicated glass recycling service. Until the 'Binformation' app is officially available, residents can find the full list of what can and cannot be recycled on the council's website at www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling

Useful contacts



Guides: Sandra McIvor
07876 787959

Brownies & Rainbows:
Janet Symonds
01777 818713

Scouts: Mark Mounde
01427 849130

Cubs & Beavers:
Hannah Bell
07912 442783

Squirrels:
Hannah Kenny
07980 949824

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

Bawtry Amateur Dramatic
Society: Catherine Minnis
07808 657681

Scrooby Village Hall:
Izzi Marshall
01302 719190

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

Bassetlaw Cardiac Support
Group:
Christine Coldwell
01909 730629

Ranskill & Torworth After-
noon 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 Primary School,
Mrs R Beesley : Head of
school| Mr A Steadman
Executive Head 01777
818468

Ranskill Reading Room:
Peter Parkin
01777 818852

Ranskill & Torworth W.I:
Pat Blatchford
01777 818519

Neighbourhood Watch
Representatives In Rans-
skill: Barry Bown
01777 816325

Scrooby: Alyson Gold-
smith 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
Councillor Andrew
McCallum
07725 768 490

Police: 101
Non urgent enquiries:
PC Jason Fellows
07525 226893
PCSO Lucy Campion
07525 989445



RANSKILL BOWLS CLUB

We are currently looking for new members to join us.
We are **YOUR** village Crown Green Bowling Club.



The outdoor season is now under way. Club league games Thursday evenings from 6pm, and cup matches on Saturday afternoons. We are getting ready for the Ranskill & Torworth Festival. We hope you will come and say hello or do come round and see us at the club. You will be assured of a warm welcome. For more details contact Simon on 07876 285593. Our pavilion is also available to hire (Would suit small Funeral Teas/Baptism parties)



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📧 Nina_loscalzo@hotmail.com

Wildlife Trust issues reminder on baby bird casualties as this year's nesting season peaks

As rising temperatures and welcome sunshine bring local gardens to life, the North Nottinghamshire Local Group of the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust is encouraging residents to keep a watchful eye out for vulnerable young garden birds.

With parent birds currently working overtime to plunder local gardens for supplies to feed their hungry offspring, experts warn that this peak nesting period is also a time for high casualties among young chicks.

The reality of the seasonal rush was highlighted during a recent visit to local wildlife enthusiast Geoff Garratt, who has been hand-feeding a brood of very young, orphaned robin chicks. In a light-hearted moment demonstrating the birds' determination to survive, one eager chick was so anxious to secure its share of food that it jumped entirely into a pot of mealworms, sending them flying in all directions with its frantic fluttering.

The Wildlife Trust emphasises that if residents come across abandoned or injured chicks, it is



always worth trying to rescue them or passing them on to a specialist or local rehabilitator who can help.

Organisers note that nursing a vulnerable chick until it can successfully return to the wild is incredibly satisfying. Furthermore, protecting local wildlife plays a vital role in supporting regional conservation, as ensuring the survival of every single bird directly boosts crucial biodiversity across our local communities.

Residents do not need to be a member of the Trust to participate in local wildlife efforts or attend group events. To ensure you never miss an update on the North Notts Local Group's upcoming summer activities, field visits, and seasonal talks, you can sign up to have regular newsletters delivered straight to your inbox.

For more information on wildlife care, upcoming events, or to join the group's digital mailing list, please contact Jan on 07969 180067 or email janwilliamson133@gmail.com.

Penny Trail raises £2,709

Smile please, the Mile of Pennies at Saint Barnabas has reached another half-mile checkpoint!

"Our current total is £2,709 given to our church since we began in 2012," said organiser Joy Tudberry. "That's a mind-blowing 3½ miles!

"Thank you one and all from all of us at Saint Barnabas! By the way, we are already 10 yards into the next target -- four miles? Yes, we can do it!"

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Live music takes centre stage at local Wednesday (Memory) Group

A vibrant lineup of regional musicians -- ranging from ukulele bands to skiffle groups -- is providing the soundtrack to a vital support network for local families affected by dementia.



Retford Ukulele Group.

The Wednesday (Memory) Group, which offers a weekly sanctuary for people living with dementia, their carers, and former carers, places a major emphasis on the therapeutic power of music. The final hour of every meeting, running from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, is entirely dedicated to live performances and social activities.

Fortnightly, popular local musician Frank brings his keyboard to perform medleys of classic songs while members play cards, dominoes, or work on crafts. On the alternating weeks when Frank is away, the group stays highly energised by hosting a diverse, rotating roster of guest artists. Regular performers include Jessica Brett, the Retford Ukulele Group, Dave and Sandra, Tina Nash, the Canon Singers, and the Littleborough Skiffles. Organisers emphasise that these musical sessions are designed purely for maximum enjoyment, familiarity, and shared friendship.

The music caps off a busy weekly schedule that begins well before the first note is played. Though the formal programme starts at midday, members regularly arrive from 11:00 AM to catch up over tea, coffee, and biscuits.

The afternoon's activities typically include a lively game of bingo, followed by an energetic session of chair dancing led by Sian, a specialist worker with disability groups. Members also regularly put their mental agility to the test during a popular general knowledge quiz before sitting down together at 1:00 PM for a freshly prepared two-course lunch.

Due to the group's popularity, there is currently a short waiting list to join. If your life is affected by dementia and you feel this supportive community could help you or a loved one, please contact Jan on 07969 180067 or email janwilliamson133@gmail.com for current availability.

Four-legged guest set to join Ranskill and Torworth W.I.

Members of the Ranskill and Torworth Women's Institute are preparing for a special furry visitor next month, as they welcome a guest speaker dedicated to life-changing canine companions.

The branch's next monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday 23rd June. The guest speaker for the afternoon will be Angela Richards, who is delivering a presentation on 'Dogs for the Hard of Hearing'. Attendees will gain insights

into how these highly trained animals provide independence and vital support to their owners.

Adding to the excitement, Ms Richards is understood to be bringing a support dog along to the session. The meeting will be held at St. Barnabas Church, Great North Road, Ranskill, commencing at 2pm. New faces, visitors, and prospective members are always warmly welcome to attend. For further information, please ring 01777 818519.

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goodtimes

Wednesday 3rd June

The Rifles in the Northeast and Yorkshire, Doncaster Market Square (DN1 4FJ), 6:15pm. An evening of pride, community spirit, and heritage as The Rifles gather to celebrate their regimental bonds. This year's event serves as a milestone, marking the 80th anniversary of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (KOYLIs) receiving the Freedom of both Doncaster and Wakefield. Bring the whole family along to enjoy military displays, cadet showcases, engagement stands, and interactive community activities. The evening will be topped off with a poignant Sounding Retreat performed live by The Band and Bugles of The Rifles. This family-friendly event is entirely free to attend.

Thursday 4th June

One Act Plays - Double Bill, Bawtry Phoenix Theatre, 7:30pm (Doors open at 6:45pm). Enjoy an entertaining night of continuous drama with two fantastic stories in one evening. The night kicks off with *Sand to the Egyptians* by J.P.S. Yates, a brilliant comedy-drama set at a speed dating event that takes a sudden turn when a participant's relaxed exterior falls away to reveal his true identity as a police negotiator. Following a short intermission, settle in for *When I Snap My Fingers* by Bruce Adam. This laugh-out-loud comedy follows an accountant and his wife who undergo hypnosis for a performance act. When a fire alarm cuts the act short, the couple are left highly susceptible to bizarre trigger words, resulting in hilarious social chaos the next evening at a high-stakes dinner with the boss! Runs nightly until Thursday 11th June. Tickets are £11, plus a 10% booking fee.



One Act Plays - Double Bill, Bawtry Phoenix Theatre

Friday 5th June

The Weston Park Race Evening 2026, Doncaster Racecourse, first race at 5:30pm (Gates open at 3:30pm). Town Moor comes alive this Friday evening with a memorable fixture of Flat turf horse racing, combining top-class sport with a wonderful community purpose. By joining the crowd, you will be directly helping the Weston Park Cancer Charity raise vital funds to deliver support services, therapies, and advice to individuals and families living with and beyond cancer. Tickets start from £19.50, and children aged 17 and under go free when accompanied by a responsible adult.

Afternoon Cabaret, Doncaster Little Theatre, 2:00pm. If you fancy a brilliant afternoon of traditional variety entertainment, join beloved compere Robert Craig for an elite showcase featuring two distinct guest acts. Audiences can look forward to a fast-moving, feel-good blend of live musical bands, stand-up comedians, magicians, vocalists, and ventriloquists. Advance tickets are £9, or £10 on the door.

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Victorian Gothic, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm (Doors open at 7:00pm). Step back into a world of mist, gaslight, and historical suspense as Don't Go Into The Cellar Theatre Company presents an anthology stage production based on a classic trio of 19th-century chillers: The Body-Snatcher, The Monkey's Paw, and Lot No. 249. Written and performed by actor Jonathan Goodwin and co-directed by Gary Archer. Strobe lighting and theatrical smoke may be used. Recommended audience age 10+.

Saturday 6th June

Donny Music Festival (Donny Fest 2026), Eco-Power Stadium, 11:00am start. Headlining the Main Stage is Liverpool-born singer-songwriter Jamie Webster, famous for his crowd-pleasing anthems and electrifying live energy, alongside indie icons Sea Girls, Ash, Lucy Spraggan, and ADMT. Over on the Acoustic Stage, enjoy a relaxed, intimate vibe with raw, stripped-back performances from Newton Faulkner, Chris Helme, Tom Hingley, and Kyle Falconer. Meanwhile, the high-octane Dance Stage will be pulsing all day with live DJ sets and club classics from Tom Zanetti, Fergie, and Livin' Joy. Tickets start from £55.

Chris Moyles Live After Racing, Doncaster Racecourse, gates open at 11:20am (First race at 1:20pm). The Meadowhall Summer Saturday Series presents a brilliant blast from the past! Settle in for an afternoon of live horse racing followed by a 90-minute outdoor "90s Hangover" DJ set from broadcasting legend Chris Moyles. The Radio X breakfast host will serve up tunes of the decade, from Blur to Britney, and Pulp to the Prodigy. The entertainment kicks off on the Champagne Lawn 10 minutes after the final race. Access to the music performance is exclusive to County, Premier, and Hospitality ticket holders. Guests must be aged 13 or over to access the lawn, and under 18s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets start from £10.



Return of The Jedi, Lakeside Village Shopping Outlet

Return of The Jedi, Lakeside Village Shopping Outlet, 10:00am – 4:00pm. Calling all young padawans in our three villages! Bring the family along to join the Phoenix Squad for a galactic weekend of Star Wars adventure. Children can put their lightsaber skills to the test at the Jedi Training School, while the dedicated activity zone is packed with realistic props, colouring packs, and stickers. Roaming characters will be on hand throughout the village for unforgettable photo opportunities. Free entry. (Continues on Sunday 7th June from 10:00am – 2:00pm).

80's Vs 90's Night - LIVE, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 7:30pm start. Prepare for the ultimate decade showdown as a sensational live tribute duo brings the best hits, floorfillers, and anthems of two legendary eras to the stage. Whether you want to sing along to neon 80s pop or dance to unforgettable 90s bangers, this night promises a brilliant hit of nostalgia. Tickets are £10.



Ranskill Nursery

Open **Monday to Friday**
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Ranskill Primary School is a 'Take Care' school, where we take care of ourselves, each other, the world and with our work. For more information please take a look at our school website:

<https://www.ranskillprimary.co.uk>

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Scrooby Village Hall

The hall is now available for business meetings and parties.

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 - Scrooby Villagers £12
 - Regular Users - negotiate.

**Ring Izzi to book on 01302 719190
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Sunday 7th June

Doncaster Antique Fair, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 9:00am start. Spend your Sunday morning searching for hidden treasures, collectables, vintage silver, gold, and fine jewellery. The event brings together 24 specialist sellers over 24 tables inside the historic Corn Exchange building, which features an excellent cafe and bar on site for refreshments.

Vicky Jackson as PINK, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm (Doors open at 7:00pm). Widely celebrated as the definitive global tribute to the American Grammy-winning pop-rock icon, Vicky Jackson brings her high-energy, authentic production to Retford. Backed by a phenomenal live rock band, her staggering vocals and bespoke costumes deliver the ultimate P!NK concert experience. Get ready for an evening packed with major hits like So What, Just Like a Pill, Raise Your Glass, Try, Trustfall, and Just Give Me A Reason. Strobe lighting and theatrical smoke may be used. Recommended audience age 18+ (or 14+ if accompanied by an adult).



Copacabana Magic - The Barry Manilow Show, Doncaster Dome

Monday 8th June

Pride of Yorkshire Lion Trail, Regional Public Spaces, 10:00am start. Creativity, community spirit, and county pride take over our public parks, streets, and squares starting today! This magnificent outdoor art trail features 150 life-sized lion and lioness sculptures, each uniquely designed and painted by regional artists and sponsored by local businesses. Joining them is the "Little Pride"—a collection of 150 adorable cub sculptures fundraised for, painted, and adopted by schools and community groups from across the area. A beautiful interactive summer trail that runs through until 7th September. Free to explore.

Wednesday 10th June

The Illegal Eagles, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm. Celebrating over 50 years since the formation of the legendary West Coast country-rock band in 1971, the world's premier Eagles tribute returns with a brand-new, critically acclaimed production. Renowned for their tight vocal harmonies, trademark musical prowess, and acute attention to detail, the band will be delivering definitive live renditions of the Eagles' greatest hits. (Also playing Thursday 11th June at 7:30pm). Tickets are £24.50.

Friday 12th June

Copacabana Magic - The Barry Manilow Show, Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm start. Chronicle the dazzling story of one of the greatest modern musical showmen of all time. This stunning concert experience is fronted by internationally acclaimed vocalist Martyn James, supported by a sensational live band and glittering dancers who perfectly capture the vibrant, timeless energy of Barry Manilow's career. Tickets from £30.25.

Saturday 13th June

Doncaster Market Food and Drink Festival 2026, Market Square, Corn Exchange & Wool Market, 10:00am – 6:00pm. This two-day community extravaganza promises an unforgettable feast for foodies, showcasing delicious local and international street food, craft ales, boutique beers, artisan gin, fine wines, and unique specialty produce stalls. Complete with non-stop live music, stage entertainment, and family-friendly activities, it is the perfect place to soak up the sunshine. Free entry. (Continues Sunday 14th June).

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'Sand to the Egyptians' is by arrangement with 'Lazy Bee Scripts'. 'When I Snap My Fingers' - This amateur production of WHEN I SNAP MY FINGERS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French, Ltd.

Autism Pride Day, Sandall Park, 11:00am start. Organized by Little Rainbows Children's Autism Charity, this beautiful community festival celebrates neurodivergent identity, strength, and inclusion. The day kicks off with a sensory-enhanced color run at 12:00pm, followed by a fantastic lineup of free children's entertainment. Highlights include a free foam party, GP Princess appearances, Mr. Dan's circus skills workshops, Little Movers, the Big Bubble Man, and the TFN Sensory Ambulance. A dedicated quieter sensory tent provided by The SEN Den offers a calmer space with specialist equipment for children who need time away from the busier areas.

The Dolly Show, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm (Doors open at 7:00pm). Direct from London's West End, star Kelly O'Brien brings the world's absolute number-one tribute to Dolly Parton to Retford. Endorsed directly by the Parton family (Kelly has even

worked as Dolly's official body double), this theatrical concert features a spectacular live band and chronicles Dolly's musical legacy from the 1960s to the modern day. Blending flawless vocals with heartfelt storytelling, quick wit, and signature country warmth, Kelly wows audiences with Jolene, 9 to 5, Islands in the Stream, and Coat of Many Colours. Recommended audience age 14+.



The Dolly Show, Majestic Theatre, Retford

Sunday 14th June

Summer Sport Spectacular Family Fun Raceday, Doncaster Racecourse, 11:50am start. Saddle up the family for an action-packed day of live turf racing combined with the pure nostalgia of a classic school sports day! The racecourse grounds will be filled with a host of free, active

entertainment and games for all generations, including classic sack races, egg-and-spoon races, tug-of-war, relays, a mini-golf setup, and an inflatable penalty shootout. Kids can also look forward to a dedicated colouring station, a grand treasure hunt, and a funfair (fees apply). Tickets are just £5, making it an affordable, memorable summer day out.

Tickhill Castle Annual Open Day, Tickhill Castle (DN11 9QP), 2:00pm – 5:00pm (Last entry at 4:30pm). A rare and wonderful chance to step inside nearly 1,000 years of local history as Tickhill Castle opens its ancient gates for its single

day of public access this year. Dating back to the 11th century, this remarkable Norman motte-and-bailey site features a rare surviving gatehouse from the Conquest era and the Great Motte—the tallest early Norman motte in England. Visitors can explore the ancient monument, enjoy live musical performances

from the Harworth Brass Band, and indulge in food served on site by Browns at the Buttercross. Admission: Adults £5.00, Children (ages 3–16) £3.00, official history guides £2.00.

NODA East Midlands AGM & Awards Ceremony, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 11:30am (Public doors open at 11:00am). The annual gathering, recording, and awards presentation celebrating amateur theatre and musical excellence across the East Midlands districts. Following a short break after the morning meeting, doors reopen at 12:45pm for the main awards ceremony starting at 1:00pm. The afternoon features a fantastic live guest performance by Retford's award-winning youth theatre group, The MOB, showcasing a short sneak peek of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

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Tuesday 16th June

Dinner and Quiz Night Fundraiser, Café Flourish (Woodfield Park, Balby), 6:30pm (7:00pm start). Assemble your ultimate trivia team and support a wonderful community cause! Café Flourish is back with its highly popular quiz evening. Tickets are £9.50 per person and include entry into the quiz alongside a delicious dinner of homemade lasagne served with warm garlic bread. Hot drinks, soft drinks, and fresh cakes will be available to purchase on the night. Teams are a maximum of 5 people.



The Bon Jovi Experience, Cast Theatre, Doncaster

Wednesday 17th June

The Bon Jovi Experience, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm start. Direct from London's West End, get ready to rock with the only tribute show to be officially endorsed by Jon Bon Jovi himself. Recreating the absolute peak and electrifying energy of the stadium rock era, talented musicians and charismatic front man Tony Pearce deliver an authentic, high-octane rock show. Tickets from £19.50.

Friday 19th June

Woodfield Wildlife Weekend & Bioblitz, Flourish Enterprises (Woodfield Park), 10:00am – 3:00pm. Join local nature experts for a "really wild" summer weekend identifying and tracking the unique flora and fauna of the estate. Download the iNaturalist or Seek app onto your phone beforehand, and experienced staff will guide you through recording birds, small mammals, rare insects, and wild plants. Free entry. (Continues Saturday 20th June 10am – 3pm).

Afternoon Cabaret, Doncaster Little Theatre, 2:00pm start. Robert Craig returns to compere a delightful, light-hearted variety bill featuring two brand-new regional guest acts, combining live music, comedy, and light entertainment. Tickets are £9 in advance, or £10 on the door.

Guided Evening Bat Walk, Flourish Enterprises (Woodfield Park), 9:30pm – 11:00pm. As dusk falls over the park, join expert guide Louisa from the South Yorkshire Bat Group for a fascinating after-dark walk. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing, sturdy footwear, and bring a torch. Suitable for adults and children comfortable walking for up to 90 minutes after dark. This event is free, but spaces are limited and must be reserved in advance. (Weather permitting).

Saturday 20th June

The Lottery Winners Live After Racing, Doncaster Racecourse, first race at 5:50pm (Gates open at 3:50pm). The Meadowhall Summer Saturday Series presents an evening of top-tier flat racing followed immediately by a high-energy outdoor concert from indie-pop group The Lottery Winners. Having recently supported arena acts ranging from Noel Gallagher to Nickelback, and embarking on a stadium tour with Robbie Williams this summer, this band is world-famous for their infectious hooks and incredible crowd-pleasing showmanship. Access is exclusive to County, Premier, and Hospitality ticket holders (ages 13+ only, under 18s must be accompanied). Tickets start from £10.

Sunday 21st June

Music in the Park 2026, Cusworth Hall, Museum & Park, 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Pack your favourite picnic blanket, gather the family, and head down to the beautiful historical grounds of Cusworth Hall for a relaxed, sunny afternoon of outdoor music. This month features a lively performance by the brilliant Doncaster Ukulele Group, delivering a fun and energetic repertoire of classic hits. Enjoy the sunshine with refreshments from Dougie's Brew & Bites, or grab cold drinks and local food from the on-site Brew-house. Free entry.

Fireman Sam - The Lost Pirate Treasure, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 12:30pm (Doors open at 12:00pm). A swashbuckling live musical treat for the little ones! When the mischievous Norman Price goes exploring deep into the Pontypandy caves to try and win the local treasure hunt, he unexpectedly uncovers a real pirate secret. It's up to Fireman Sam, Elvis, and Ellie to save the day. Strobe lighting and theatrical smoke may be used. Recommended audience age 3+.



Fireman Sam - The Lost Pirate Treasure, Majestic Theatre

Friday 26th June

June Flat Racing Afternoon, Doncaster Racecourse, first race at 1:50pm (Gates open at 11:50am). Soak up the social energy, summer sunshine, and beautiful scenery of Town Moor with a crisp, action-packed Friday afternoon card of live Flat racing on the turf track. The perfect excuse to welcome the weekend early with friends and family. Tickets from £21.

Kaleidoscope, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm). Presented by the talented students of Holly Plumley Performance Arts, this annual student showcase brings audiences a vibrant spectrum of colour and movement. The evening offers a unique, high-energy performance combining breathtaking aerial circus arts, gymnastics, acrobatics, and contemporary dance. Recommended audience age 3+.

Saturday 27th June

Doncaster Armed Forces Day, Doncaster City Centre, 11:00am start. Look forward to a grand military parade, live military band music, tactical equipment displays, and live demonstrations showcasing military skills, equipment, and careers.

Football's Coming Dome, Doncaster Dome, 7:00pm start. With the big summer international football tournament in full swing, catch the match action on a massive screen with an unrivaled, stadium-style fan zone buzz that only the Dome can deliver. Tickets are £12.50.

Murderous Minds with Emma Kenny, Cast Theatre, Doncaster, 7:30pm start. One of the UK's

most popular TV crime commentators, digital influencers, and media psychologists, Emma Kenny (This Morning, YouTube), brings her stage tour to Doncaster. Delve into the deep, dark psychological motives behind Britain's most notorious real-life murder cases to explore what drives human nature to commit unthinkable acts. Emma expertly balances chilling forensic facts with compassionate storytelling. Tickets from £17.50.

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Sunday: 12-6pm
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Thursday - Steak Night from 5pm.

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Sunday 28th June

Free Guided Themed Walks, Hyde Park Cemetery (DN4 5AA), 3:00pm start. Explore the historic and architectural secrets of Doncaster's past with a free guided walk hosted by the Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery. This afternoon's specialised theme focuses on the Mayors of Doncaster, exploring local leadership, civic legacy, and fascinating historical scandals. All walks start at the Cross of Sacrifice near the main entrance on Carr Lane. Free to attend (donations are gratefully accepted).

July Sneak Preview: Thursday 2nd July

Matilda Jr., Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:00pm (Doors open at 6:15pm). The brilliant young performers of Retford bring Roald Dahl's beloved masterpiece to life on the Majestic stage. This award-winning musical adaptation tells the story of an extraordinary little girl with a sharp mind and a vivid imagination who dares to stand up against her abusive parents and the tyrannical school headmistress, Miss Trunchbull. Runs until Sunday 5th July, with 3:00pm weekend matinees. Tickets £8, plus 10% booking fee.

Friday 3rd July

Afternoon Cabaret, Doncaster Little Theatre, 2:00pm. Compered by local favourite Robert Craig, the show brings a fast-moving mix of live musical sets, comedy routines, magic acts, and vocal performances from two top regional guest artists. Tickets £9 in advance, £10 on the door.

Saturday 4th July

Lakeside Artisan & Craft Fayre, Lakeside Village Shopping Outlet, 10:00am start. Spend a sunny Saturday exploring a superb monthly showcase of independent, home-based makers, bakers, and creators. The grounds will be filled with colorful stalls offering handmade crafts, bespoke artisan items, and delicious continental and traditional hot food. Includes free children's entertainment throughout the day. Free entry.

Caged Steel 43, Doncaster Dome, 5:30pm (Doors open at 5:00pm). High-octane Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) action returns to the Dome for an exhilarating night of championship combat.

Featuring some of the region's biggest combat stars, this professional event offers an explosive showcase of skill, athleticism, and non-stop sporting drama. General admission tickets start from £40 for adults.



Caged Steel 43, Doncaster Dome

Thursday 9th July

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm

(Doors open at 7:00pm). The award-winning youth theatre group The MOB presents the local premiere of everyone's favourite flying car! Follow the eccentric inventor Caractacus Potts, his children Jeremy and Jemima, and the fabulous Truly Scrumptious as they outwit the evil Baron Bomburst to save Grandpa Potts. Packed with unforgettable Sherman Brothers numbers like Toot Sweets, Hushabye Mountain, and Me Ol' Bamboo, The MOB's stellar reputation promises a performance that is "Truly Scrumptious" for all generations. (Runs until Sunday 12th July). Recommended audience age 3+.



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downtime

Your June Star signs

Aries: A sudden ambition to clean the garden gutters before the solstice will seize you. Your family suggests that dangling from a rusty aluminum ladder while holding a trowel is a young man's game. Opt for a quiet afternoon supervising the lawn from a deckchair with a cold beer instead.

Taurus: If the price of local strawberries at the farm shop causes an involuntary groan, it is time to defend your own patch. You will spend June in a high-stakes tactical war against a particularly brazen local blackbird. A sturdy net and a firm scowl are your primary weapons.

Gemini: The arrival of the summer solstice provides the longest day of the year, which you will use to catch up on three months of village news. By sunset, you'll be the undisputed authority on why the pub changed its tonic brand and who really forgot to lock the church hall.

Cancer: Father's Day stirs a quiet nostalgia for the specific scent of old sawdust and engine oil. You might find yourself wandering into the garage just to stroke a vintage spanner or sort a jar of rusted nails. Honouring the past is a perfectly restorative way to spend a Sunday.

Leo: The arrival of genuine June sunshine is the only excuse you need to debut those daringly bright linen trousers. If they feel a little snugger than last year, simply blame the manufacturer for using exceptionally shrinking thread. Your radiant confidence remains entirely uncompromised by a tight waistband.

Virgo: A single, defiant dandelion appearing in your pristinely pointed patio is a personal insult of the highest order. Armed with a kitchen knife and a look of grim horticultural determination, you will achieve stony perfection. Your neighbours will watch your precision with a mixture of awe and slight fear.

Libra: The return of Wimbledon on the television brings out your inner umpire.

You'll spend the fortnight offering loud, expert commentary on line calls from the comfort of your armchair.

Scorpio: While watching the village cricket match from the boundary, you'll be the only one to notice the bowler is subtly bending the rules. Your talent for spotting flaws makes you a formidable observer. It's a sign that your sharp eye is best kept to yourself until the tea break.

Sagittarius: A "scenic shortcut" across the fields sounds idyllic until the June hay fever kicks in with a vengeance. Your natural optimism will be tested by a spectacular sneezing fit halfway down the footpath. A pocket full of tissues and a swift retreat to the pharmacy are required.

Capricorn: The ritual of the evening watering becomes a precise engineering task as the dry spells set in. You'll fine-tune the spray arc to ensure the prize roses are thoroughly soaked without dampening the laundry on the line. Your commitment to domestic logistics remains the absolute gold standard.

Aquarius: An innovative hydration system involving siphons, old hosepipes, and a child's paddling pool may emerge from your garage this month. While logically sound, the aesthetic impact on your hostas will baffle passers-by. Your eccentric genius is flourishing as fast as the June weeds, much to your amusement.

Pisces: The sight of a dragonfly darting over the garden pond sends you into a poetic daze midway through taking the bins out. You'll spend twenty minutes contemplating the nature of time while holding a bag of recycling. The mundane world can wait while you commune with the afternoon breeze.





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Croft Cottage opens new series for Scrooby Garden Club

This month sees the launch of a brand-new, occasional series with the Scrooby Garden Club, taking readers behind the scenes of local village gardens, with the historical and evolving plot at Croft Cottage chosen to kick off the feature.

The owners moved into the property 15 years ago, taking on a garden that already boasted a prominent feature fishpond. The pond had originally been created as a birthday present for the previous owner by local landscape gardener Adam Swannack. After a quick purchase of a handbook on fish care to learn the ropes, the owners report that two of those original fish have remarkably managed to survive to this day.



The leaning wall finally met its end one morning last year, when the owners woke up to find it had collapsed completely into the historic hole. A major restoration project followed, requiring 35 tonnes of material and topsoil to fill the void. The wall was then meticulously reconstructed using its original bricks by Benchmark, a local firm specialising in the restoration of old buildings.

Following the structural work, the surrounding border was recreated as a gravel garden by local gardener Peter Turver, who has also successfully restored the shrub areas around the fishpond.

The garden remains a work in progress, however. Peter is yet to get radical with the back border, which is currently heavily covered in a variety of plants that the owners admit "may have been a good idea at the time," but have now grown completely inappropriate for the space. As with all the best local plots, the garden at Croft Cottage continues to look to the future and evolve.



Over the years, the garden has undergone significant transformations. When the main flower bed steadily became overrun by the most dominant plant species, the owners decided to convert the space into a gravelled sitting area. This peaceful spot has since become home to an ever-increasing collection of pots tended to by Barbara.

The garden also shares a fascinating link with local military history. A boundary wall shared with a neighbour had been leaning for quite some time, courtesy of a large hole on the far side. This hole was originally an air-raid shelter constructed in the 1950s, back when nearby RAF Finningley served as a base for nuclear bombers. In more recent years, the crater had been repurposed into a pond.



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
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Christian perspective: Anxiety



Thinking about the things most people worry about, I found this on the Internet: *The most common things people worry about revolve around financial security (debt, savings), job stability, personal health, and the health of loved ones. These top-tier concerns are often followed by anxieties regarding the future, relationships, and self-image, with roughly 85% of these feared scenarios never actually happening.*

It seems sad to me that people find themselves overwhelmed by the potential of bad things happening. There are also many things that do come to us in life that are actually happening. In those times, one passage in the Bible to which I frequently turn is in Paul's letter to the Philippians chapter 4. This passage shows how to combat anxiety in three ways: with faith, prayer and in our thought lives. It starts like this in verse 6: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

The first thought here is that everything -- nothing excluded -- can be brought to God in prayer, when we come with faith in Christ. As well as asking for his help, it's good to remember the many blessings he already pours out on us, and so come with thankfulness. When we do this, there is a sure and certain promise we find in verse 7: *And the peace of God which transcends all understanding,*

will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

This peace that comes from God is beyond what our minds can grasp, above and beyond natural thinking, but wonderful to experience. It is human

There's a final part to this passage that I find helpful and it concerns our thinking. In verse 8, Paul lists lots of good things, things that are: pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy -- think about these things. So we can make a difference under God's hand, by focussing on such things. We can choose where we fix our thoughts.

Jesus is there for us and with us. He loves us and longs for us to bring our concerns to him. It doesn't just depend on you trying to think positive thoughts; we have the Holy Spirit to help us. Romans 8:26, 27 tells us: *The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans...the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.*

It doesn't mean the difficulties or trials will immediately go away, but we can spend time in his presence, looking to Him, resting in his goodness, enjoying his peace through the Holy Spirit. Here we can know that our prayers have been heard and his mighty hand will bring about his purposes for us, even in the middle of difficult times. It's not all up to me or you; it's up to God and he is able.

** Brenda Critchley*

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

Your June 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 38.

SCROOBY SHOW

Opens at 1pm on the Croft

Saturday 5th September, 2026

Stalls and events include - Cake Stall, Jam and Pickle Stall, Sweet Stall, Plant Stall, Knitting and Stitching Stall, Church Tombola, Grand Raffle, Candles, Sweets, Craft Stall, Local Produce Stall, Pet Show, Tug-of-War, Children's Races, and Face Painting.

BBQ and Bar

Show competition open to all -
Vegetables, fruit, flowers, culinary, art and craft,
children's.

**SHOW COMPETITION ENTRY FORMS FROM -
www.scrooby.net**

Your June STAR pop-up pub quiz

1. Papaver is the scientific name for which flower?
2. What is the name of the smallest flower in the world?
3. Lotus is the national flower of which country?
4. Which flower is associated with a famous painting by Vincent Van Gogh?
5. With what flower is the Chinese New Year often celebrated?
6. The crocus flower gives us which expensive spice?
7. Titan Arum is known as the Corpse Flower because it smells of what?
8. What is the name for the flowers that bloom at night and close during the day?
9. White flowers have a lesser smell than coloured ones – True or False?
10. What is the male part of a flower called?
11. Which yellow flower symbolises friendship and new beginnings?
12. What is the national flower of Russia?
13. What flower did the Victorians call a gilliflower?
14. Which flower is sometimes called the sword lily?
15. What is the national flower of Portugal?
16. Which blue flower is the name of the ship that accompanied the Mayflower?



17. What is the more common name for Helianthus?
18. Old Man's Beard and Traveller's Joy are names for a variety of which flower?
19. Which small blue flower is associated with Freemasonry?
20. Which daisy like flower, the national flower of Mexico, gets its name from a Swedish botanist?

Answers on page 38.

Church notices for June

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

Sunday 7th Ranskill – 9.30am CW HC
Sunday 14th Scrooby – 9.30am CW HC
Sunday 21st Blyth – 9.30am CW HC
Sunday 28th Ranskill – 9.30 CW HC

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

Churchwardens –
Ranskill: David Hill – 01777 818072, Derek Gill – 07704 065002.

Church Warden –
Scrooby: Gordon Ashworth 01777 818322.



Steam in my Blood

The steam train's a beast that can come in all sizes,
Some sleek, some pot-bellied and round
When the firebox glows and the steam pressure rises,
It lets off a magical sound

We scramble aboard
And the luggage is stored.
Time seems to drag
Till the Guard waves his flag
I do like going on trains.

Despite all the soot and the putter of smoke
And the grit that gets into my eye,
When the engine gives out its first shuddering stroke
With a hiss and a lurch – then oh my!

The child in me grins
The excitement begins
We're off going where?
I really don't care,
I just like going on trains.

Joy T.



The STAR recipe: Toffee-Topped Peaches

Ingredients

-16oz can peaches (in syrup)
-½ pint double cream
-6oz demerara sugar

Method

Drain the peaches and arrange them in a shallow baking dish. Whip the double cream lightly, spread it evenly over the top of the peaches, and chill. Just before serving, sprinkle the demerara sugar over the cream layer. Place under the grill until the sugar just melts into a toffee crust, then serve immediately.

Cream Cheese Dressing: To serve with fruit tarts, pies, or fresh and cooked fruits.

Ingredients

-3oz cream cheese (beaten soft)
-1 tblsp lemon juice
-6oz double cream
-2 tblsp redcurrant jelly



Method

Gradually add the lemon juice, double cream, and redcurrant jelly to the softened cream cheese. Beat the mixture together until smooth and well combined. Chill thoroughly before serving.



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- 🎮 Games & Activities
- 🎨 Face Painting
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- 🚒 Fire Engine Visit

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Scrooby Quarry Extension Proposals

Community Consultation Event

You are invited by Rotherham Sand and Gravel Co. Limited to view and comment on proposals to extend sand and gravel extraction at two sites at Scrooby Top creating nature conservation wetland.

An in-person consultation event will take place at Scrooby Village Hall, DN10 6AJ on **Friday 26 June 2026** between **1pm and 7pm**.

You will be able to view the proposals and provide feedback online by scanning the QR code, or visiting www.scroobyquarries-consultation.com



Scan Me



www.scroobyquarries-consultation.com

ABRIDGED DRAFT MINUTES OF SCROOBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 9th March in the Scrooby Village Hall

1. Present : Chair Stephen Cordery, Elaine Gargett, Lindsey Buxton, Jean Ogden, Sandra Withington, Terry Goldsmith, Dan Blount, Tony Smith (Clerk & Treasurer), County Cllr Mike Robertson, District Councillor Jack Bowker, Parishioners / Public present: S Lincoln.

2. Apologies :

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, Websites, Church Clock, Re-establish contact with BCVS and follow up on the Jazz Event, Gardening Club to work on the Winze Himalayan Balsam weed.

4. Agenda Confirmation of Agenda Items – 2 noted, 1 added to the agenda (Hedges and Pruning). (See below).

4.2 Public Discussion – Hedges and Pruning (See below)

5. Correspondence: The usual number of notices, e-mails and letters had been received over the last month and were listed before the meeting. Those of note: Waste Bin SCAM, CPR Training offer.

5.4 CPR training needs up to 10 places, Clerk to put details on Website and WhatsApp.

6. District and County Councillor's Report

County Councillor – Council Tax set at 3.99% increase, Highways are starting new methods of pothole repairs and schemes (PC made their feelings known), Walk around Scrooby in April 2026 to see what needs to be done and

progress on the inspection of the Great North Road Footpath.

District Councillor Jack Bowker – Council Tax budget set at 2.99%, Waste Bin taking longer to empty, Possible Council elections in 2027.

7. Finance Report

7.1 The Treasurer presented his report, which included Village Hall costs and salaries, the Croft "Bush" removal, and donations to the Gardening Club and The STAR as agreed. Full details of the report can always be viewed at

www.scrooby.net.

7.2 Other activities: As per the action points last meeting.

7.2.3 The funding from Tesco Worksop was successful and awaiting the money.

8. Police Report

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

The PC does not get regular crime statistics, Clerk to request some and a quarterly attendance at the Council.

9. Planning & Neighbourhood Plan

9.2 Planning issues: New Applications: None

Existing Applications: 24/01434/FUL Caravan Site: 24/01380/01381/COU Holmefield Barn conversion.

9.3 Others: Our own SNAP plan restart in progress.

10. Play Area

The Rope Climbing Frame has been removed and a decision on the ground cover imminent (Slab or Grass).

11. Village Hall

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

11.1.4 The Society of Mayflower Descendants in Europe conference in the Scrooby V Hall on 4th July. County and District involvement under discussion..

12. Village Environment

12.0 Noted the 3 sets of roadwork

notices Discussed that one member of the Gardening Club is training in hedge laying and offered some work on the Whinze. Also advice can then become available for any villager wanting to prune their trees and hedges (Contact the Clerk)

12.0.4 Village Hedges, the Great North Road footpath continues.

12.1 Grass Cutting, continues, 1st cut and collect next week. The “bush” in the centre of The Croft has been removed.

12.2 The development of The Whinze and Gibbet Hill Common – Joint work with the Gardening Club to remove any Himalayan balsam weed will be progressed over the summer. Discussion about the litter in the lay-bys on Gibbet

Hill Lane, Gardening Club and PC members to assist in clearance, but also looking for a Litter Bin to be installed.

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

14. Items for Information Only / Next Agenda

Agreed the meeting in September will be brought forward to Monday, 7th September.

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

Next meeting to be held on Monday, 13th April 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!**

→ Watch out there is a scam about... and a thief!!

→ 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 !!!!

→ Do you know why the Station Road Level Crossing was closed?

→ 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 May 2026 and every 6 weeks after that. Can you last that long???

→ 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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All adverts must be paid for in advance by the 16th of the month.

Signed..... Tick if receipt required

last words

June brings Father's Day, the summer solstice, and apparently a ferret-or-possibly-a-polecat-or-maybe-a-mink wandering around Ranskill and Torworth. The social media identification debate was spirited – "looks like a polecat to me," "it's wild," "not very clear but possibly a mink" – proving once again that when it comes to escaped mustelids, everyone's an expert and nobody's quite sure.

There was a suggestion that an unnamed bald bloke might know, as he'd once found someone's missing ferret. Whether this particular creature was ever reunited with an owner or decided Torworth suited it remains unclear, though one hopes it's settling in nicely.

That's the ferret, not the bald bloke. I'm sure he's already settled.

But the real drama this month came courtesy of Bas-setlaw District Council, who've had quite the time of it. First, they attempted to license cake sheds – those charming roadside honesty boxes where you pop a pound in and take a cupcake – as commercial street traders.

The public reaction was swift and decisive, prompting what can only be described as a strategic rethinking. The council has now paused enforcement, recognising that Mrs Jenkins selling Victoria sponges from her garden shed doesn't quite constitute commercial street trading.

Eggs, vegetables, and flowers remain entirely exempt, being "surplus goods from normal domestic life." Oh, to be a fly on the wall of the council meetings that produced these classifications.

Then there's the 'Binformation' app – a name that manages to be both clever and deeply unfortunate – which was meant to launch in April to guide us through the new recycling rules.



Technical delays with the Apple and Android App Stores meant it never materialised, leaving residents to navigate Simpler Recycling without digital assistance. The council apologised, though by now we're all presumably experts at which plastic trays go in which bins.

The good news is we can now recycle plastic tubes, tin foil, and Tetra Pak cartons in our Blue Bins, with glass going in the new black bins on a six-weekly schedule. The less good news is you'll need to check the council website rather than a handy app to remember what goes where.

Perhaps the most significant news is the closure of the pedestrian crossing over the railway line at Scrooby.

The crossing has been shut without warning due to unspecified "safety issues". We hear claims that the right-of-way stops at either side of the line but not across it, despite the crossing being in regular use for as long as anyone can remember. It's part of a wider programme to close level crossings along the

East Coast Main Line, though the lack of warning has understandably caused considerable village consternation. We're following up on this story here at The STAR and hope to update everyone soon.

June brings longer days and warmer weather, though this year it's also brought mammal mysteries, cake shed controversies, and crossing closures. At least the bins are sorted. Mostly.

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

Quiz answers: 1. Poppy 2. Wolffia 3. India 4. Sunflower 5. Peony 6. Saffron 7. Rotting Flesh 8. Moon Flowers 9. False 10. Stamen 11. Daffodil 12. Camomile 13. Carnation 14. Gladiolus 15. Lavendar 16. Speedwell 17. Sunflower 18. Clematis 19. Forget-me-not 20. Dahlia

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