

*the*STAR

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September 2026
Issue 487

Severe Alert

now

Issued by the UK Government



There is a very high risk of wildfires nationally. Residents, landowners and visitors should not undertake any activity that could start a fire, including disposable barbecues, firepits, garden incinerators or fireworks. Even a small flame can rapidly develop into a major wildfire placing lives, homes, businesses and emergency responders at risk.

Follow official updates and report signs of fire immediately by calling 999. Search gov.uk/alerts for more information.

Is this our climate
change fire alarm?

thismonth

The Knowledge

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Good Times

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Down Time

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The Minutes

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Last Words

Between loose livestock, mystery metal, and a spot of bad behaviour, quiet country life hasn't been particularly quiet lately - *page 38*

"Have your say!"

Got something you feel passionate about and would like to share with our community? Please email your article to copy4star@yahoo.co.uk, or give your written piece to your village representative. Keep submissions to around 350 words and ensure we receive your copy in good time for the following month's publication. Make sure you

have your say!

firstwords



Welcome to September, and with it that shift from long summer evenings to cooler mornings and the return of school runs, WI meetings and winter lecture programmes.

It has been a busy month for local talking points across our communities. We follow up on the sudden closure of the historic rail crossing at Station Road in Scrooby, reporting the conversations we're hearing while we wait on official word from the county council.

We also bring you the latest on the ongoing investigation into illegal waste dumping near Ranskill, and on Nottinghamshire Police's new facial recognition vans.

Elsewhere, there's warmer news: a look at how a little structure can help carers of people with dementia, a first glimpse of the Wildlife Trust's winter talks programme, and lively round-ups from our brilliant Brownies and Rainbows after their busy summer terms.

Plus, the Historical Society returns with a talk on pit ponies, and Nottinghamshire Police divers issue a timely Float to Live reminder.

Keep your stories, photos and news coming to copy4star@yahoo.co.uk.

I'm sure there was something else...oh yes, that was it. The planet appears to be burning. We all might want to do something about that.

George

Kevin Fletcher

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Brownies pack in badges and dens over busy summer term

Ranskill Brownies have had a busy summer term. In May they joined the Rainbows for a sports evening, with some members also trying padel in Bawtry; all took part in football, tennis and athletics on Everton Sports field, earning their Sports Person Interest Badge.

An evening at The Whinze in Scrooby saw the group find all the compass directions on Scrooby field and draw maps to gain their Wayfarer Badge, followed by water races on a very hot evening that left everyone rather wet.

The term ended with a picnic at Idle Valley Nature Reserve, where the Brownies made clay creatures on paper plates and built dens.

Ranskill Brownies meet on Monday evenings from 5.45pm to 7.15pm at Scrooby Village Hall. The group extended a big thank you to the parents who supported last term's activities.



Emma from Brownies and Charlotte from Rainbows with their Gold Award



Combined Rainbows and Brownies sports evening on Scrooby Croft.

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Rainbows celebrate sleepover, Gold Awards and teddy picnic



Congratulations were in order for Emma, Poppy, Charlotte, Joanie and Elsie, who took part in the Retford Division Rainbow Sleepover at East Markham Village Hall at the start of July.

Rainbow Gold Awards were also presented to Harriet, Emma, Charlotte and Joanie.

The group enjoyed a busy term of indoor and outdoor activities, rounding things off with a Teddy Bears Picnic at Idle Valley Nature Reserve.

Pit ponies take centre stage as history society reopens

The Retford & District Historical & Archaeological Society begins its new season of lectures on Wednesday 9th September, with members and visitors asked to note an earlier-than-usual start time of 7pm. The opening talk, Nottinghamshire Pit Ponies,

will be given by Janine Buckley at Chapelgate Hall, situated behind Grove Street Methodist Chapel. As ever, all are welcome.

For further information, contact Joy Tudberry on 01777 818419 or Colin Witham on 01777 702475.



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Parish council responds as waste dump probe continues

Ranskill Parish Council says it has been contacted by a number of concerned residents following media reports of illegal toxic waste dumping close to the village, and has confirmed that the matter is now the subject of an active police and Environment Agency investigation.

In a statement issued on 6 August, the council said it first reported suspicious activity at the site to Bassetlaw District Council's planning enforcement team and Nottinghamshire County Council in May 2025, before the matter was passed to the Environment Agency. The council said it remains in regular contact with the relevant authorities but is unable to provide further detail while the investigation is ongoing. The Environment Agency is now supervising the case and is seeking residents who are able to provide witness statements.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Environmental Crime Officer at the East Midlands Area Enforcement Team, Environment Agency, Trentside Offices, Scarrington Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5FA, on 03708 506506 (customer services) or the incident hotline on 0800 807060.

Mile of Pennies update

As of August 4th, the Saint Barnabas Church Mile of Pennies has reached £2,757, which is 3.5 miles and 120 yards.

It's growing so fast, say organisers, who also send a thank you to all of those supporting the charitable endeavour.

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 Mo/Tu/Th 9.30-3

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 Sup-
port Group:
Christine Coldwell
01909 730629

Ranskill & Torworth After-
noon Fellowship Club:
Carol Head
01777 705077

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Club: 01777 817265 /
07973 870299
office28@mattersey.notts.s
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Ranskill Bowls Club:
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07876 285593
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Ranskill Primary School,
Mrs R Beesley : Head of
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Ranskill Reading Room:
Peter Parkin
01777 818852

Ranskill & Torworth W.I:
Pat Blatchford
01777 818519

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

Scrooby: Alyson Goldsmith
07507 493430

Ranskill Parish Council:
Bryn Kinsey
07305 129849

Scrooby Parish Council:
Tony Smith
07974 836978

Torworth Parish Council:
Claire Challener
07557 104323

District Councillors:
Ranskill
Councillor Andrew
McCallum
07725 768 490

Police: 101
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Police roll out facial recognition vans to track wanted suspects

Nottinghamshire Police has begun deploying facial recognition technology, built into a marked van with a 360-degree camera system, to identify criminals and safeguard vulnerable people. Officers compile a "watchlist" of people suspected of serious offences, including robbery, burglary and sexual offences, or those needing to be located for their own safety, such as missing people. The camera measures facial features, including eye distance and jawline length, to create biometric data, and can identify



people even when wearing a face covering. If a potential match is found, an officer approaches the person to check identity; otherwise, no action is taken.

The force says deployments are always announced in advance, with clear signage at the scene,

and that the technology does not discriminate on gender, age or race, with unmatched scans deleted within seconds.

Detective Superintendent Will Henley said "it will be the police officers who make the decisions, not the technology."

Scrooby crossing: what we're hearing

The STAR reported in July on the sudden, unannounced locking of the historic rail crossing at Station Road in Scrooby. This had been used by generations of walkers, cyclists and dog owners since Scrooby Station was built in 1849. We also reported on local efforts to secure a roundtable meeting with Level Crossing Managers and Nottinghamshire County Council's Countryside Access team.

Since then, we have been hearing from sources close to the issue that an application to

formally register a bridleway crossing at the site was submitted to Nottinghamshire County Council by the Retford Ramblers' Association as far back as August 2021, and that it remains undetermined. We understand the council may be facing a significant backlog of similar rights-of-way applications, with one figure mentioned to us being as high as 200 awaiting processing — though this has not yet been officially confirmed by the county council. We will report further once we have more information.

Letter to the editor: parking problems

I am writing once again to raise serious concerns regarding vehicles being parked in double yellow and single yellow lines next to the traffic lights on station road.

The parking is causing obstruction and potentially dangerous situations for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users. Restricted visibility and difficult for all.

We would be grateful if the location could be monitored and enforcement action taken against these as somebody will get hurt or even killed.

I have complained so many times. I hope Notts council and our local councillors read this

Regards
Station Road resident

Routine brings relief for carers

One of the things carers often find hardest is organising the day of the person they look after. In the early to middle stages of the disease, people find it increasingly difficult to fill their time in a way that feels useful and satisfying. "What shall we do now?" or "Where are we going today?" can become wearily familiar questions for an exhausted carer who just wants to stay at home and get a few jobs done without constant interruption.

Having a ready-made programme helps enormously. Structuring each day into three sessions – morning, afternoon and evening – with its own set of activities is recommended: breakfast, a tidy-up and a walk; lunch followed by the support group meeting; then perhaps old photographs in the evening, finished off with a warm drink and a biscuit before bed.

The Alzheimer's Society sells games suitable for people with dementia, and the BBC has a wealth of reminiscence material online, searchable by subject or decade.

Once the day is structured and both carer and person with dementia know what to expect, life becomes considerably easier for both.

Anyone who cares for someone with dementia, has a diagnosis themselves, or simply wants to find out whether the Wednesday Group might help, is encouraged to get in touch.

Jan can be contacted on 07969 180067 or by email at janwilliamson133@gmail.com for the latest on what the group is doing and current availability.

There is currently a short waiting list, but ways of accommodating more people are being explored.

Sessions cost £10, including lunch, and the first visit is free.

Winter wildlife talks return to Idle Valley

The North Nottinghamshire Local Group is putting the finishing touches to its winter programme of wildlife talks, which gets under way this month.

The line-up promises to be a varied one, ranging from the unassuming plants that sprout between cracks in pavements – dismissed by most as weeds, but ecologically significant – to an exploration of the underwater life of Rutland Water.

Also on the bill is Hollie Marsh, Rural and Wildlife Crime Officer, who will explain how police tackle rural and wildlife crime in the area.

Further talks will examine the effects of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, the role forensic science can play in protecting wildlife, and



the growing interest in cecidology — an unfamiliar term to many, but one organisers say is well worth getting acquainted with. All talks will be held at the Idle Valley Centre, running from 7.15pm to 9.15pm.

The first, on 10 September, will look at the effects of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Entry costs £3, which includes complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits, and no booking is required. Anyone interested in finding out more, or in signing up for email updates on the group's talks and activities, can contact Jan on 07969 180067 or email janwilliamson133@gmail.com. Membership is not required to attend.



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Friday 4th September

DN One Live, Sir Nigel Gresley Square, 7:00pm. Get ready for a full weekend of FREE live entertainment as DN ONE Live returns! Runs until Sunday 6th September. Outside Cast Theatre. Free entry.

The Story of the St Leger, Mansion House, First Floor Ballroom, 2:00pm. Friends of Doncaster Mansion House present an illustrated talk by Tony Barber celebrating the 250th anniversary of the St Leger.

Cast Comedy Club, Cast Theatre, 7:45pm. Twelve years of guaranteed hilarity! Featuring some of the finest touring comedians on the UK stand-up circuit. This month's headliners are Shazia Mirza and Paul Campbell. Shazia's vast TV credits include Have I Got News For You, QI, Would I Lie To You, Top Gear, The Jonathan Ross Show, House of Games, and Pointless Celebrities. Ages 16+. From £15.50.

Saturday 5th September

The Phantom Raspberry Blower of Old London Town, Bawtry Phoenix Theatre, 7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm). Brought to you by Hambleton Productions. Written by Spike Milligan and Ronnie Barker, adapted by John Hower, directed by Rachael Hower. Tickets £17, £15 concessions, group of 4 for £56.

Last Night of The Proms, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm). Presented by Majestic Productions. The much-loved Last Night of the Proms returns for its sixth spectacular year. All proceeds support the ongoing preservation of the Majestic Theatre. Recommended age 7+.



Shazia Mirza, Cast Comedy Club, Doncaster.

Lakeside Artisan & Craft Fayre, Lakeside Village Shopping Outlet, 10:00am. A monthly showcase of independent, home-based makers, bakers and creators with children's entertainment. Free entry.

Doncaster Family Fest, St Catherine's House, Flourish Enterprises, Woodfield Park, 10:00am. Circus performances, workshops, live music, ice cream, flyball demonstration, and lots more. 10am-3pm. Free entry, free parking.

Women's Wellbeing Day, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 10:30am. A free, family-friendly event focused on women's health and wellbeing. Covering physical health, mental wellbeing, lifestyle support, and access to local services. 10:30am-3pm. Free entry.

Waiting in the Wings, Cast Theatre, 2:00pm & 7:00pm. Join Cast on the Main Stage for an extraordinary original production uncovering two and a half centuries of Doncaster's theatrical heart and soul. A moving, funny, and resilient journey through local history with over 50 local performers ranging in age from 7 to 86 - with storytelling, movement, song, and community spirit. From £15.

SCROOBY SHOW

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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.

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Doncaster Knights, Castle Park, 3:00pm. Nottingham friendly (HOME). From £195 season ticket.

P!NK Live starring Vicky Jackson 2026, Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. An incredible night with the world's number one tribute to one of the best-selling female artists of all time. From £28.25.

Sunday 6th September

Grand Charity Concert, Tickhill Methodist Church, 3:30pm. A special charity concert in aid of The Britain-Nepal Otolaryngology Service (BRINOS). An afternoon of music performed by The Hallgate Chamber Orchestra and talented soloists. Tickets £10.

Thursday 10th September

Betfred 250th St Leger Festival - Ladies Day, Doncaster Racecourse, 11:00am. The most glamorous day of the year returns! Fashion, racing, and entertainment in a truly glamorous atmosphere. The Style Awards are back - compete to be crowned the most stylish attendee. Includes the iconic May Hill Stakes and celebrates the 250th anniversary of the first running of the St Leger Stakes. Gates open approx 11:15am, first race approx 1:15pm. Note: no under-18s on the Champagne Lawn throughout the Festival.

Big Girls Don't Cry, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. The internationally acclaimed tribute to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons. Celebrating 60 years since they skyrocketed to worldwide stardom with No.1 hit Sherry. From £26.

Friday 11th September

Heritage Open Days, Various locations across Doncaster, from 11th September. Discover the rich history, heritage and hidden stories of Doncaster as Heritage Open Days returns for 2026. From medieval churches and historic houses to guided walks, exhibitions, backstage tours and hands-on workshops. Many events are free, with plenty of family-friendly options. Runs until Sunday 20th September.



Heritage Open Days, Doncaster.

The Signatures Northern Soul Live, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. The UK's most authentic Northern Soul live show! Experience the soul-stirring magic of The Signatures. A ten-piece live band joined on stage by iconic original Northern Soul artist Lorraine Silver (Lost Summer Love), a favourite from the legendary Wigan Casino. From £21.

Saturday 12th September

80s Live!, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Direct from The Adelphi Theatre in London's West End - the biggest 80s party show to tour the UK! Live band Electric Dreams perform over two dozen chart-topping anthems from Wham!, The Weather Girls, Culture Club, Rick Astley, Madonna, Duran Duran, Soft Cell, The Human League, A-Ha, Tears for Fears and more. From £26.

Coldplace 2026, Doncaster Dome, 7:30pm. The World's Leading Tribute to Coldplay. A stunning live concert performance celebrating the music of one of the most successful bands of all time. The only tribute to have worked for Coldplay, leading you through all your favourite hits. £27.

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Scrooby Show 2026

Sunday 13th September

Dinosaur that Pooped a Rock Show, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 12:30pm (Doors 12:00pm). Brand new for 2025! When Danny and Dino's favourite rock band are playing their last ever concert, they go on a quest to get the last two tickets. Run time 65 mins, no interval. Recommended age 3+.

Cusworth Hall Walled Garden Open Day, Cusworth Hall, Museum & Park, 10:00am. Explore the beautiful fruit-laden trees of the Orchard, the abundance of roses and perennials in the Flower Garden, the restored Bowling Green, and the recently repainted trompe l'oeil garden scenes inside the Bowling Pavilion. Adults £4, FOC members £3, RHS members free, children under 16 free.

Free Guided Themed Walk - Sports & Recreation, Hyde Park Cemetery, 3:00pm. Discover sporting stars and popular pastimes from Doncaster's rich history. Meets at The Cross of Sacrifice, main entrance on Carr Lane, DN4 5AA. Free entry.

Hello Again: 60 Diamond Years, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. In 1966, Neil Diamond released his debut album and music was changed forever. Celebrating 60 Diamond Years, the smash hit show Hello Again is back with a brand-new production. From £21.

Thursday 17th September

Doncaster Film Club - Almost Famous, Doncaster Little Theatre, 7:00pm (Doors 6:00pm). Almost Famous, from writer-director Cameron Crowe, the film throws us headfirst into the intoxicating world of music journalism in the 1970s, a golden age for American rock music. A love letter to growing up, chasing your dreams, and the power of pop music. You'll never listen to Tiny Dancer the same way again. Tickets £7.



Dinosaur that Pooped a Rock Show, Majestic Theatre.

Friday 18th September

Doncaster VW Festival, Parklands Sports and Social Club, 2:00pm. The ultimate VW lover's meet-up! Classic VWs, fellow fans, cool rides and fun vibes. Runs until Sunday 20th September. From £33.22.

Music Industry Reset 2026, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 6:00pm. South Yorkshire's premier independent music conference, live tech showcase, and networking summit. Programme runs 5pm-midnight. From £12 general admission.

Motown Night, Holiday Inn Doncaster, 7:00pm. Step back in time and dance the night away! Live singer, disco, three-course meal, and entertainment from 7pm till late. Tickets from £35.

An Audience with Jeff Stelling, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. A night of football fun not to be missed! Jeff Stelling brings his free-flowing, unscripted style to the stage. Hosted and roasted by Sky Sports colleague Bianca Westwood. VIP Meet and Greet packages available. From £19.

SCROOBY SHOW

5th September 2026

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Calling All Residents!
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• Candles



• Bath Toiletries



• Boxes of Chocolate/Biscuits



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- Drop off at Pebble Mill

YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

SCROOBY SHOW 2026
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Tribute to the Beatles, Regent Hotel, Regent Square, 8:00pm. An evening of Beatles classics celebrating the Fab Four's visit to Doncaster on 22nd March 1963 - the day their debut album Please Please Me was released. No1 Bar (formerly the Abbey Road Bar), Regent Hotel.

Saturday 19th September

Mansion House Open Day, Mansion House, 10:30am. Heritage Open Day special. The Friends of Doncaster Mansion House lead free guided tours around the building. Free entry.

Northern Newbies, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 7:00pm (Show 7:45pm). Northern Newbies brings together four burlesque schools. Estimated end 10:30pm. From £19.25.

New Dawn Fades, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. A scintillating new play about Joy Division & Manchester. The story of four lads who, inspired by the punk revolution of 1970s Manchester. Also playing Sunday 20th at 7:30pm. Duration 2hrs including interval. From £19.

Sunday 20th September

New Dawn Fades, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Second performance of this scintillating play about Joy Division & Manchester. Duration 2hrs including interval. From £19.



Faulty Towers - The Dining Experience.

Wednesday 23rd September

The ELO Experience, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. 20th Anniversary Tour celebrating the great music of Jeff Lynne and The Electric Light Orchestra. The world's foremost multi-award winning tribute celebrates its 20th Anniversary Year. Featuring an all-girl string ensemble and Jeff Lynne look and sound-alike front man. From £23.50.

Thursday 24th September

RDS - Down the Rabbit Hole, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:15pm (Doors 6:45pm). Rebecca's Dance Studios presents a spectacular dance production celebrating 15 years of Rebecca's Dance Studios. Also performing Friday 25th and Saturday 26th September at 7:15pm. Recommended age 3+.

Faulty Towers - The Dining Experience, Evolution Experience Restaurant, The Yorkshire Hive, 7:00pm (Seating & show 7:30pm). Join the original multi-award winning London sensation taking the world by storm. Basil, Manuel and Sybil bring a healthy dose of mayhem to your door. Fully immersive, highly interactive, and completely original - with 70% of the show improvised. £55 per person including 3-course meal. Over 18s only.

Too Much Too Young - The Music of 2Tone & Beyond, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Back for its second year after a smash-hit debut, the UK's premier ska theatre experience returns. From £23.

Friday 25th September

Luke Combs UK, Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. The world's leading tribute to the Grammy-nominated country megastar. A live five-piece band perform all of Luke's hits. £29.25.

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Man in the Mirror, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Brand new must-see electrifying tribute concert to Michael Jackson. Starring CJ, one of the world's greatest Michael Jackson tribute artists, supported by a talented cast of performers and musicians. All the greatest hits including Thriller, Billie Jean, Beat It, and Smooth Criminal. Dazzling choreography, stunning visual effects, and light show. Duration 2hrs 10 mins including interval. From £26.

Saturday 26th September

Taylormania 2026, Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. The UK's leading Taylor Swift tribute, Katy Ellis brings more than just a performance. From £30.75.

Metallicish & Ghost UK, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm). Two of the UK's premier tribute bands bring you a double headline set of the best music from Metallica and Ghost. Loud, intense, and unmissable! Ages 18+. Running until 11pm. £22.38.

Emerald Storm, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Direct from the West End, the electrifying new dance show starring Adam Garcia and Tom Ball. Under 14s must be accompanied. From £26.

Sunday 27th September

Cusworth Hall Walled Garden Open Day, Cusworth Hall, Museum & Park, 10:00am. Second open day this month. Explore the Orchard, Flower Garden, restored Bowling Green, and Bowling Pavilion. Adults £4, FOCP members £3, RHS members free, kids free.

The Selfish Giant, Cast Theatre, 11:00am & 2:00pm. The Giant is angry! He's been away for a long time and returns to find children playing in his beautiful garden. Duration 60 mins, no interval. From £12.

Doncaster Knights, Castle Park, 4:00pm. Hart-pury RFC (HOME).

Tuesday 29th September

UK Pink Floyd Experience, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Lose yourself in The Songs from Every Album Tour 2026! Featuring songs from every one of Pink Floyd's 15 studio albums. Duration 2hrs 40 mins including interval. From £21.



Ladyboys of Bangkok, Majestic Theatre.

Wednesday 30th September

Ladyboys of Bangkok - Full Moon Tour 2026, Majestic Theatre, Retford, 7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm). Your favourite show-stopping divas are back on UK tour, bigger, brighter, and cheekier than ever! The Full Moon Tour promises dazzling costumes, jaw-dropping choreography, and powerhouse performances, with chart-topping anthems, side-splitting comedy, and the sparkle of Thailand's most glamorous Ladyboys. For over 25 years with more than a million tickets sold, The Ladyboys of Bangkok have been thrilling audiences of every age and background. Recommended age 16+.

Sneak Preview - Thursday 1st October

Woodhill, Cast Theatre, 7:15pm. Gut-punching choreography and unflinching beats shine a light on the hidden story of HMP Woodhill. Ages 16+. Duration approx 85 mins. From £12.

Friday 2nd October

Queenz - Battle of the Divas, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. From the creators of Drag Me to the Disco and Show With Balls! comes a new live vocal drag spectacular. Ages 14+. Duration 2hrs 10 mins including interval. From £24.

Cast Comedy Club, Cast Theatre, 7:45pm. This month's headliners are Nick Page and David Eagle. Nick Page - English Comedian of the Year from Britain's Got Talent, a globetrotting anecdotal genius who has performed in over 50 countries. Acts subject to change. From £15.50.

Saturday 3rd October

Lakeside Artisan & Craft Fayre, Lakeside Village Shopping Outlet, 10:00am. Monthly showcase of independent, home-based makers, bakers and creators. Free entry.

Totally Bonkers Bingo, Doncaster Corn Exchange, 7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm). Prepare yourself for a wild night of outrageous games, ridiculous challenges, great music, and fantastic prizes. Giant inflatables, mystery prizes, life-size cardboard cut-outs, and much more up for grabs. Ages 18+. £16.96.

Sunday 4th October

Run for Wildlife 5K, Yorkshire Wildlife Park Resort, 9:00am. The Return of the National multi-award winning 5K walk, jog, run safari. From £22 (virtual entry from £13.50).

Tuesday 6th October

Blackout - Fear Loves an Audience, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. An immersive theatrical experience that pulls you into a world where fear and imagination collide. Ages 15+. Duration 1hr 50 mins including interval. From £24.

Wednesday 7th October

Daniel Kitson: Thrum, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. A new comedy show by Daniel Kitson. At least two funny voices and upwards of three jokes. Ages 16+. From £15.

Thursday 8th October



Michael Portillo,
Doncaster Dome.

Dennis Rollins presents R&Beatles, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Doncaster's own jazz trombone maestro Dennis Rollins MBE funks up the pop-rock sound of the iconic Beatles. From £19.

Friday 9th October

Showstopper! The Improvised Musical, Cast Theatre, 7:30pm. Spontaneous musical comedy at its absolute finest, direct from the West End. Ages 12+. Duration 1hr 50 mins including interval. From £19.

Michael Portillo - A Life of Two Halves, Doncaster Dome, 6:45pm. Michael Portillo joins us live on stage to share funny, insightful, and poignant stories from his extraordinarily rich and varied life. From £30.

Saturday 10th October

Demon Hunta'z, Doncaster Dome, 2:15pm. KPOP Demon Hunta'z Live is a high-energy concert style performance. Runs approximately 70 minutes plus intermission. From £24.



Open Monday to Friday
8.45am to 3.30pm, term time only.

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>

Our aims

Provide every child with a quality early childhood experience.

Create a happy place for your children where they are able to learn.

Create a safe, nurturing and developmentally appropriate environment which fosters individual needs.

Promote independence from a young age to make sure that your children are school ready.

Develop good relationships with each child and parent based on open communication and mutual respect.

Develop a positive outlook towards school, a better appreciation of the world around them and acquire a lifelong love for learning.

For further information please call the school office on 01777 818468
or email administration@ranskill.notts.sch.uk

Spaces available! To register your child call today!



Scrooby Village Hall

The hall is now available for business meetings and parties.

- Fully equipped kitchen with crockery for up to 60 people.
- Wi-Fi, Audio-visual equipment, screen and 4K projector.
- French doors from hall opening onto attractive patio and village green.
- Barbeque
- Disabled access and toilet
- Competitive rates -

Scrooby Residents £9.50 per hour

Non-residents / Commercial £12

Ring Izzy to book on 01302 719090

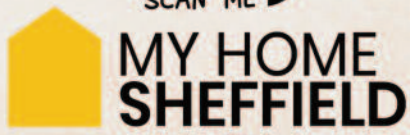


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downtime

September Star signs



Aries: The return of the autumn routines will spark an aggressive urge to reorganize the kitchen cupboards. You'll spend a rain-soaked afternoon aggressively purging expired tins of soup from 2019. Try not to throw out the good biscuit tin in your flurry of seasonal efficiency.

Taurus: The first crisp morning air calls for a serious assessment of your jumper collection. You'll spend a quiet hour inspecting woollen elbows for moth damage and debating whether it's too early to light the log burner. Your sturdy devotion to personal warmth remains a noble, lifelong pursuit.

Gemini: The arrival of the Harvest Festival preparations brings a fresh wave of competitive intrigue. You'll be the first to discover who is bringing the homemade chutney and whose prize marrow was secretly imported from a farm shop in the next county. Keep your phone charged.

Cancer: A sudden, inexplicable urge to bake a traditional bramley apple pie will overtake you this month. You'll take great pride in rolling out the pastry and filling the house with the scent of cinnamon. Offering comfort food to anyone who crosses your threshold is your ultimate superpower.

Leo: The autumn light gives you a magnificent excuse to wear your finest tweed jacket to the local butcher's. You'll treat the high street like a high-fashion catwalk, completely unfazed by the sudden gust of September wind that threatens your immaculate hairstyle. Radiance is your full-time job.

Virgo: The back-to-school atmosphere fills you with a deep, nostalgic joy for pristine stationery. You'll likely find yourself buying a fresh notebook and a pack of ballpoint pens just for the thrill of a clean page. It's a sign that your love for order will always prevail.

Libra: The seasonal shift brings the eternal "windows open or heating on" debate to your household. You'll spend hours adjusting thermostats and shifting draft excluders to achieve domestic harmony. Finding the exact temperature for optimal comfort is a delicate, ongoing science.

Scorpio: You'll be quietly inspecting the neighbourhood hedge boundaries for encroaching brambles. Your talent for identifying minor boundary disputes before they escalate makes you a formidable local strategist. Keep your secrets sharp and your observations private until the ideal tactical moment.

Sagittarius: A yearning for a bracing autumn walk across the mist-covered hills will strike mid-week. You'll insist that walking in a torrential September drizzle is "refreshing for the soul" to anyone foolish enough to join you. Just ensure you've packed a dry pair of socks.

Capricorn: The changing season requires a thorough, methodical check of the house gutters and roof tiles before the autumn rains arrive. You'll take immense satisfaction in clearing out fallen leaves before anyone else on the street has even noticed them. Domestic foresight is your true badge of honour.

Aquarius: An unusual method for storing conkers to ward off spiders will occupy your garage this week. While your family might question why there are polished chestnuts tucked into every corner of the hallway, your commitment to natural pest control remains completely unshaken and uniquely inventive.

Pisces: The sight of mist hovering over the valley fields sends you into a romantic, autumnal daydream. You'll spend a lovely afternoon staring out the window with a lukewarm cup of Earl Grey, completely ignoring the garden chores. The falling leaves are far more interesting than the ironing board.

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

Christian perspective: sore points

Just recently I have been suffering with one stiff and sore finger on my left hand. It is apparently called a trigger finger. Mostly it doesn't cause too much trouble, but it has stopped me playing guitar and knitting; even eating with a knife and fork has become more difficult.

As I was thinking about how just one sore finger, out of all the many parts of the body, has started to limit what the whole body can do, I was reminded of the picture of the church being like a body. It's in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians and chapter 12. He points out that just as God has designed and created our bodies with all their different parts to have different functions, but all intended to work together at the direction of the head and for the good of all, so the Church is the same. (1Cor12:12).

Every one of us has a part to play as God has designed us. Here's how Paul explains it: *Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the*

body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. 1Cor 12:15-20.

When we first believe in Jesus Christ and ask him to forgive our sin and come and live within us and be our Saviour, we become a part of the church. If we don't choose to go to the church meetings or associate with the local church in some form, it doesn't stop us being part of the church body. But it does mean we are not playing our part – and that part is missing. And if we do go and meet with other Christians, then we need to ask God to show us how our part should be working for the good of the whole body.

There is a purpose in this as we see in verse 25 of this chapter: *so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.*

Every single thing that is done between members of the church is important, from a smile, a hand-shake, or the offering of a cup of tea, through to the preaching of a sermon – each of these and many others has its place and contributes to the good of all.

So, as you consider your place in your local church body, ask God to show you what your part is and how he has gifted you to function as part of the whole.

Each one is important and needed. God bless you as you work out his purpose for you.

** Brenda Critchley*

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

September 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.

The Cafe Hub St Barnabas Church Ranskill

We are pleased to be re-opening after the summer break.

The first Cafe Hub will be on
Saturday September 12th
10.30 until 12.30

Join us for tea, coffee and delicious home bakes.

There will also be a Raffle.

**We are currently raising money for The
Alzheimer's Society UK**

All donations from the September Cafe Hub and Raffle will go to this Charity in memory of Sue Hill and Pat McGill

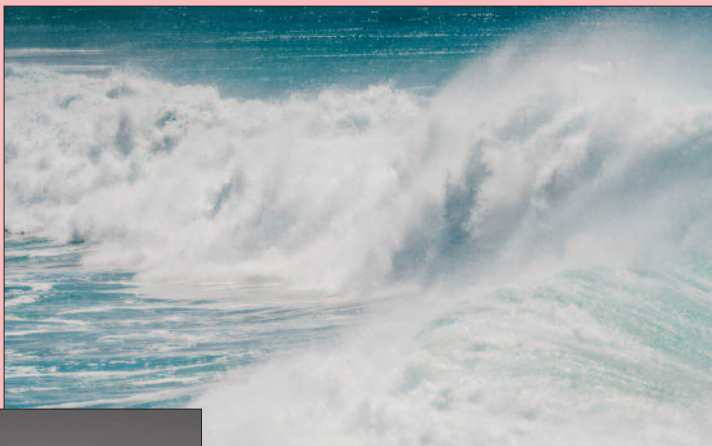
Many thanks to all who continue to visit the Cafe Hub- you help us in so many ways and we are very appreciative of your support and generous donations.

We look forward to seeing you and new people too in September.

Many thanks from Jane Cole
And the cafe Hub Team xx

Pop-up pub quiz: Oceans and beaches

1. Which ocean is the world's largest?
2. What famous beach is located in Honolulu, Hawaii?
3. What is the fear of oceans and seas called?
4. What is the most common type of seaweed found on beaches?
5. Which country has the longest coastline in the world?
6. Which beach in Rio de Janeiro is famous for its black and white patterned boardwalk?
7. Which country invented beach volleyball?
8. Which of the world's oceans is the smallest?
9. Which US state has the longest coastline?
10. What causes the oceans tides?
11. What is the average temperature of the world's oceans?
12. What is the name of the phenomenon where water glows blue at night on some beaches?
13. What recreational beach activity is also called "ultimate"?



14. Which of the world's oceans is the deepest?
15. Which narrow strait connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea?
16. Approximately how many islands are there in the Pacific Ocean?
17. What water sport combines elements of surfing, snowboarding and sailing?
18. Which ball sport is traditionally associated with beaches in Brazil?
19. Which ocean geologically speaking is the youngest?
20. Approximately what percentage of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans and other water?

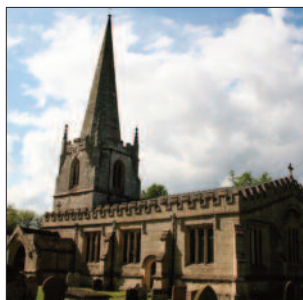
Answers on page 38.

September church notices

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

Sunday 6th Ranskill – 9.30am CW
HC. Sunday 13th Blyth – 9.30am
CW HC. Sunday 20th Scrooby –
9.30am CW HC. Sunday 27th
Ranskill – 9.30am 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.



A Rhyme for our Time

Twinkle, twinkle, Little Star,
How I wonder what you are,
Are you from the birth of time,
Formed by a wondrous Hand divine?

Or are you something made by man,
Left over from some super plan
To colonise the void with waste
And leave the universe debased.

While people simply give a shrug?
Perhaps it's time to pull the plug.
Are we condemned to just career
Down some Black Hole and disappear?

So twinkle, twinkle, Little STAR
Safely out of reach – so far!

Joy T.



The STAR recipe: Skillet Potato Salad

Ingredients

- 4 slices bacon, diced
- 1/2 cup sliced onions
- 1 tbsp vinegar
- 2 tbsp sweet pickle (chopped up)
- 1 can condensed celery soup
- 1/4 cup milk
- 3 cups hot cubed jacket potatoes

Method

Skillet? Don't worry, that's Americanese for a good old-fashioned frying pan!

Fry the diced bacon in your skillet until crisp, then remove it from the pan and set aside.

Fry the sliced onions in the remaining bacon drippings until softened.

Return the crisp bacon to the pan, then stir in the milk, vinegar, chopped sweet pickle, and condensed celery soup.



Mix the ingredients thoroughly over the heat to create a warm, rich dressing.

Finally, gently fold in the hot cubed jacket potatoes last and heat everything through thoroughly before serving. Tastes good with almost anything!



RANSKILL BOWLS CLUB

This is Buddy. Buddy is a regular visitor to the Bowling Club on a Thursday evening. He gets a lot of fuss and attention and enjoys a biscuit or two. Suffice to say, we are currently looking for new members to join us.

You are assured of a warm welcome and I know Buddy would love to see you too!

PS. Our clubhouse is also available to hire for meetings and other activities. To enquire please contact Simon on 07876 285593.



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Will visit the villages on the following dates:

Ranskill and Torworth - Friday September 25th

Ranskill -

Grange Cottage - Blyth Road

1025 - 10.35

Station Road No 7

12.20 - 12.30

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 September 8th

Station Road / Low Road

14.45 - 15.15

For information about requested titles or particular items of stock, please contact
01909 535353 or email: worksop.library@inspireculture.org.uk



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/>



Scrooby Parish Council recruitment

Are you interested?

Scrooby village has 7 parish councillor places but only has 6 councillors.

Scrooby Parish Council (SPC) needs a minimum of 4 councillors, in attendance, to be able to vote on decisions and issues relating to the village and its environment.

We would like to have a full complement and are therefore recruiting once again.

The roles of the councillors vary depending on how involved each member wants to become and which issues/topics interest them.

The requirement is a monthly meeting, held in the village hall on the 2nd Monday of each month, lasting approximately 90 minutes. The meetings are usually attended by the district and county councillors.

We currently have representation from all corners of the village and would like this to continue. Without the SPC we would be left in the hands of the local authority regarding grass cutting, hedge trimming and general maintenance/upkeep of the village. All of these and many more we currently take for granted. We can only speculate on where the future of these services leaves us if left to the local authority.

Recent projects and achievements that SPC have been involved in include: the development of the Whinze and Gibbet Hill common, the new Mayflower Memorial and the Christmas lights for the village hall. We have also had a grit bin installed in the centre of the village.

If you think you have something to offer and would like a chance to be involved then why not come along to the next SPC meeting (7th September) just to get a feel for things. Alternatively you can speak to one of the current councillors who will happily answer any questions you may have. If you then decide you wish to take this opportunity and feel you have something to offer please contact the Clerk or Chairman at

parishcouncil@scrooby.net



ABRIDGED DRAFT MINUTES OF SCROOBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 13 July 2026 in the Scrooby Village Hall

1. Present : Chair Elaine

Gargett, Lindsey Buxton, Terry Goldsmith, Sandra Withington, Jean Ogden, Dan Blount, County Cllr Mike Robertson (Part), Tony Smith (Clerk & Treasurer), Parishioners / Public present: Matt Pollard.

2. Apologies: District Councillor Jack Bowker.

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

Minutes were accepted, No corrections
- Proposed by Terry Goldsmith,
Seconded by Sandra Withington.

3.1 Confirmation of last meeting's action points

Completed or ongoing listed, but: Websites, replace the Noticeboards, continue to search for a solution to the removed climbing frame, pay the S137 donation to the North Notts First Responders.

4. Agenda

4.1 Confirmation of Agenda Items – 1 noted. (See below).

4.2 Public Discussion – see Station Road rail crossing closure 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: NALC Training courses.

6. District and County Councillor's Report

County Councillor – Discretionary School Transport Funding under review and Concessionary Travel for Students outside of the county: Lobbying the Police and Crime commissioner for a dedicated Rural Crime Team: Funding for cross county schooling with ECHP funding needs specific examples. Highways, road surfacing in coming to this area but Via EM have changed dates without warning.

District Councillor Jack Bowker – Apologies, so no report. However, Elaine G will chase up the missing bins

on Gibbet Hill Lane.

7. Finance Report

7.1 The Treasurer presented his report, which included Village Hall costs, Clerks salary, Fire Safety Check, and craft supplies for the Tesco funded schoolchildren craft projects and also grass cutting. Full details of the report can always be viewed at

www.scrooby.net.

7.2. Other activities: Due to there being no need to have an external audit of the accounts this year the annual process is complete.

7.2.3 The funding from Tesco Workop – The 1st school's clay sculpting was a success and well received.

8. Police Report

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

The police web site that shows crime statistics was presented, along with access – one reported crime in May.

9. Planning & Neighbourhood Plan

9.2 Planning issues: New Applications – None

Existing Applications: Consultation for extensions to the Scrooby Top Quarry was held: 26/00346/OUT, Sheepcote House: 24/01380/01381/COU Holmefield Barn conversion.

9.3 Others: Our own SNAP plan restart is ongoing.

10. Play Area

The annual inspection is due shortly: Rope Climbing Frame work replacement in progress with a different options under investigation.

The Council's thanks to the parishioner who reported the damage to the slide which was quickly repaired.

11. Village Hall

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

11.1.4 The Society of Mayflower

Descendants in Europe conference in the Scrooby V Hall held on 4th July was a success and they thanked the PC for their visit and facilities.

11.2 The Scrooby Show and the new Traders Licensing rules and costs, continue to cause apprehension. But an application as a Charity / Local event has been placed. The Scrooby Show continues.

12. Village Environment

12.0 Noted – Recent road works notices.

12.0.4 Village Hedges, the Great North Road footpath overgrowth continues.

12.1 Grass Cutting, continues, as do the hedges. A price is to be obtained to cut the Manor Road copper beech hedge.

12.2 The development of The Whinze and Gibbet Hill Common – The Bird Feeder had been knocked over again. Fires being held on The Whinze in this hot spell are being noticed and causing concern, monitoring is to be started.

12.9 The Station Road Level Crossing closure. Matt Pollard from the PC working party reported the level of analysis they have undertaken and that the actual crossing appears to have never been registered as a Bridle path, "custom and usage" seem to have brought the acceptance by the public. But the upshot is that a legal case to re-open it would be very expensive and that should be acknowledged by the PC. Matt produced a draft letter to send to Network Rail, County pathways, etc., was discussed and agreed to be sent to register our position.

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 after the Summer Holidays on Monday 7th September 2026 at 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.

→Watch out there is a SCAM about... And a Thief !!

→Need to book the Village Hall for a party or such, call or WhatsApp Izzi Marshall on 07776 304336

→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??? Can you help with historical records that prove it is a Bridle Path?

→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 !**

→Praise indeed – The Village Hall was rated as "an asset to the Parish"

→Please ! Do NOT have a bonfire party fire on the Whinze and take your litter home!

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



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lastwords

August has rolled away, leaving behind a landscape looking less like the rolling green of home and more like a sun-baked Mediterranean outpost.

A glance through the local community forum feeds reveals a populace alternating between drenching drooping hydrangeas and contemplating the quiet, existential dread of a parched lawn.

And then, just to test our collective blood pressure, Whitehall intervened.

At precisely 7:01 pm, give or take, mid-month-ish, millions of pocket-sized air raid sirens wailed across the kingdom. For a terrifying few seconds, half of us had an idea that it was finally time for the alien invasion. Finally.

As it turned out, it was the national emergency alert system warning us of severe wildfire risks and slapping a sudden ban on disposable barbecues.

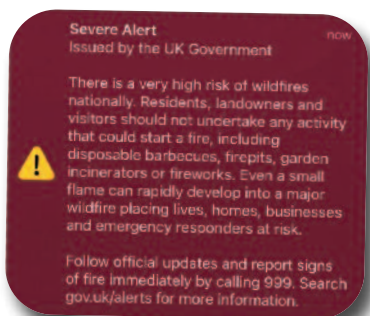
Did it make you jump? It went out around wine o'clock time, I'll bet there were a few spilled vinos.

We're not judging if your win o'clock is earlier

But it raises a sobering question, and one we pose on our cover this month: Is this our climate change fire alarm? The truth is, the fire alarm has been ringing for quite some time. Forum monitors noted reports from local woodland walks where a dog waste bin was melted clean to cinders, accompanied by the charred remnants of illicit portable grills.

With the countryside resembling a tinderbox, the official warning was stark.

One rather hopes the message sticks – though given some of the local antics chronicled online this month, one shouldn't hold their breath.



Quiet rural life proved anything but tranquil elsewhere this month. The witching hour took a literal meaning when feeds lit up with warnings of enterprising youths treating car handles like a late-night lucky dip before sprinting off.

Meanwhile, perennial local gripes resurfaced online, with the ongoing waste dump saga continuing to test patience while the wheels of a criminal investigation grind at geological speed.

Social media also captured the exhausting undercurrent of village gossip, as one newcomer family felt compelled to publish an open letter addressing a year's worth of baffling rumours simply because they bought a house needing TLC and worked for a living.

If you have nothing better to do than invent tall tales, perhaps channel that energy into weeding your driveway.

As for the younger generation, dash-cam footage highlighted a makeshift motocross circuit in action: wearing a crash helmet is a splendid start, but hurtling past with a passenger sans protective gear is a remarkably efficient route to A&E.

September brings the sweet relief of a temperature drop and common sense.

Stay safe, watch your step, and we will see you next month.

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

Quiz answers: 1. Pacific 2. Waikiki 3. Thalassophobia 4. Kelp 5. Canada 6. Copacabana 7. USA 8. Arctic 9. Alaska 10. Gravitational pull of the moon and sun 11. 39°C 12. Bioluminescence 13. Frisbee 14. Atlantic 15. Strait of Gibraltar 16. 25,000 17. Kiteboarding 18. Footvolley 19. Southern 20. 71%

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