

Wudhus News

December 2019/January 2020

Horsley Woodhouse Parish Council



Friday 20th December 2019

6.00 to 8.00 pm

Horsley Woodhouse Church Hall,

Main Street, DE7 6AT

Age 9 - 16 years

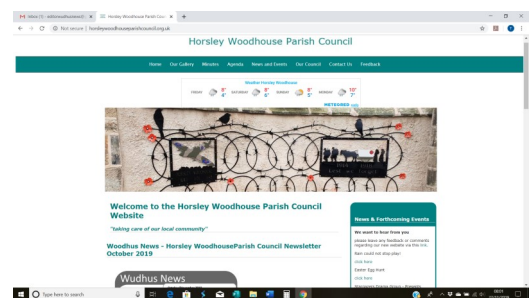


Horsley Woodhouse Parish Council

Report from the October and November Parish Council meeting:

October

- Clerk to ask Royal Mail if the lane leading up to the Sitwell Recreation Ground can have its own post code.
- Proposed removal of BT payphone kiosk – Main Street. The Parish Council wish for this facility to remain in the village.
- A response has not been received from Derbyshire County Council regarding the cultivation licence for Four Lane Ends, Clerk to ask DCC when we will receive the licence, as Broomfield are ready to plant this area up.
- The planters in the village are to be planted with winter flowering shrubs.
- **Horsley Woodhouse Parish Council website is now up and running - www.horsleywoodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk**
- The Council will be looking at ways in which to promote green issues in the village.



November

- The grass verge opposite the Doctors is now established with the grass and plants flourishing. Cllr

Buttery reported he had received a number of complimentary comments about this area however he did point out that the work was carried out by the Parish Council in conjunction with Broomfield College.

- Thanks will be given to Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Seals, Cllr Nathan and Cllr Till for installing the British Legion poppies on the lampposts in the village.
- Amber Valley are looking into a potential change of postcode for the properties off Church Lane as emergency services have had difficulty in locating properties in this area in the past.
- **The Christmas light switch on event will take place on 1st December 2019.**



Recreation Matters:

October: The hedges on both the recreation grounds to be cut.

November: The hedges on both the recreation grounds will be cut once the weather is better.

Horeston Recreation Ground - November

The new sign at the Horeston Recreation Ground will be installed in November.

Advent Sunday 1st December
Horsley Woodhouse Christmas
Tree Light up.
5pm at the Millennium Wall.
Also from 5pm at the Church
Hall.
A FREE evening of warm drinks,
seasonal treats & Mulled Wine.

There will be Gift Stalls, Music and a
chance to have a friendly get-together.
Everyone is Welcome.
(This event is sponsored by H.W. Parish Council)

Parish Council meetings:

The next two meetings will be held on **Tuesday 3rd December 2019 and Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 7.00 pm in the British Legion Hall.**

All members of the parish are welcome to attend to observe the meeting and raise any issues.

Parish Council Contact Details:

- Cllr K Seals (Chairman) – 01332 881 983
- Cllr S McGuinness (Vice Chairman) – 07790 849 000
- Cllr A Nathan – 07790 730 610
- Cllr I Ratcliffe – 01332 781 872
- Cllr S Till – 01332 881 739
- Cllr J Whitmore – 01332 880 203
- Mrs K Richardson (Parish Clerk) – 01332 883 404 or

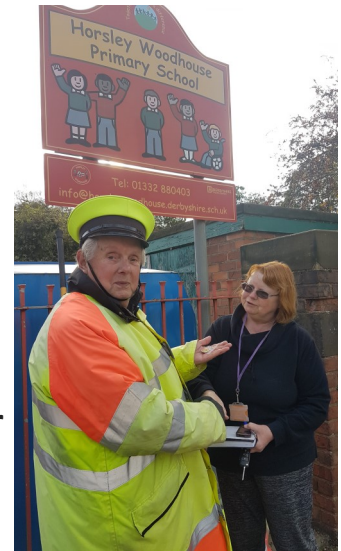
Email: horsleywoodhouseparishcouncil@aol.com

Long Service Award to School Lollipop man

Malcolm was presented with his 20-year service award on 22nd October from his manager. Rain, snow and shine Malcolm is there providing a valuable community role to children, young people and parents to help them safely cross Main Street.



Well done Malcolm and a big thank you for your service to the village.



Horsley Woodhouse Church Hall

This welcoming and well equipped local venue can be hired very reasonably for:

Crafts. Dances/Dancing Lessons. Parties and Celebrations. Training Sessions. Buffets. Fund Raising Events. Sales. Exhibitions. Concerts. Amateur Dramatics. Music Practices/Recitals. Fashion Shows. Corporate Functions. Meetings. Quizzes. Meals. Clubs and Societies. Classes. Hobbies. Zumba. Yoga. and lots more.....

Call Sheila on 07803 158 235

Arthur Medical Centre

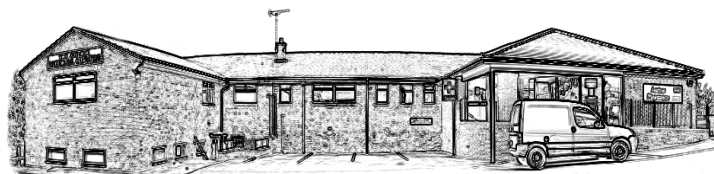
As winter is now upon us, demand for appointments is increasing. As you will no doubt have heard in the press, the NHS is continuing to struggle to meet demand. At Arthur Medical Centre we have always strived to maintain excellent access for our patients and are continuing to look at ways in which we can meet the demands we face by providing telephone appointments, online consultations and additional appointments with our other clinicians such as our Clinical Pharmacist and Nurses.

Over the past few years we have noticed the number of people missing their booked appointment has increased significantly. On average around 130 appointments are missed per month. This includes a wide range of appointments including those with a GP, Advanced Clinical Practitioner, Nurse or Pharmacist. Whilst it is frustrating for practice staff, the people who suffer however are those patients who have been unable to get an appointment and who could have made use of the appointment someone else did not attend. **We ask that if you know you are not going to be able to make your appointment then please cancel it so we will be able to offer it to someone else who needs it.** Please also be aware that we are within our rights to remove a patient from our list if they persistently miss appointments.

Ways you can help:

- As soon as you know that you will not be able to make an appointment, or that you simply don't need it anymore then contact us by phone to cancel it. Appointments can also be cancelled online if you are registered for SystemOnline.
- Update your contact details as soon as you change phone number or move house.
- If you would like to receive a text reminder for your appointment, please ensure that we have your mobile telephone number.
- If you have specific problems that you wish to discuss that are preventing you from informing us when you cannot attend for an appointment, then please ring the surgery and we will try and help where we can.

Remember – Help out your fellow patients – Keep it or Cancel It!



Main Street, Horsley Woodhouse, Derby, DE7 6AX.

Tel: 01332 880249 Fax: 01332 781269

www.arthurmedicalcentre.co.uk

Dr A J McKenzie Dr L J Wilton Dr M L Tidmarsh Dr K J Woodier Dr J Clark Dr R Furness

Smalley Boys School Reunion

Diminishing membership of the existing Reunion through death and age-related restrictions has caused the Committee of the Smalley Boys School Reunion to reconsider its position. More than 25 years ago the Reunion was formed for former pupils of the Smalley Richardson Boys School and has been successful over the years with the initial membership totalling over 100. It was open to all the boys who attended the school prior to July 1958. After this point in time the school became the Richardson Junior Mixed School.

A reunion has been held every year since formation at various venues, but in the more recent years it has been held with the help and kind consideration of Heanor Miners Welfare who provided us with an excellent venue room complete with bar. They also provided the excellent buffet which was paid for by the Reunion. Members were invited to bring their wives, partners, girlfriends, etc., and the cost was (and still is) £5.00 per head. The Reunion is a non-profit making enterprise, and a raffle is organised during the evening with members donating prizes and this helps to pay for future event.

Unless something is done, the Reunion in its current form will soon cease to exist, and as a vital organisation within the village of Smalley, which has all too few social outlets, the current Committee feel that some effort should be made to see if it can continue long into the future.

At the last Annual General Meeting, held on Friday 8th November, members agreed that in the initial instance membership should be offered to everyone who attended the Richardson Endowed School up to 1970, an increase of twelve years. Depending upon response the date might be extended still further in the future. **We therefore invite people who attended Smalley Richardson School between July 1958 and December 1970 to get in touch with us if they are interested in attending our future Reunions.** If sufficient numbers are forthcoming, we shall retitle the Reunion, Smalley Richardson School Reunion. The School are also behind this move. CEO Matthew Crawford is keen for the Reunion to continue stating it to be a “vital school organisation.”

Any former pupil interested in attending should get in touch with:

Secretary: Keith Alldread, 7 Fearn Close, Breaston, Derby, DE72 3DT.

E: Keithalldread@aol.com T: 01332 870 236

Vice Chairman: Stan Wilton, 57 Main Road, Smalley, Derbys, DE7 6DS.

E: Stan.wilton@sixwells.co.uk T: 01332 881 099



Local Clubs, Community Groups & Societies

Jog Derbyshire

Horsley Woodhouse Joggers meet every Thursday at the Church Hall at 7.00 pm. It is a group for absolute beginners or those returning to jogging after a break. For anyone who wants more details please contact Sam Draper by phone 07891 571 488 or email: samanthadraper@live.com.

Orchard Group

Meet every fortnight at the Orchard Centre on Tuesdays 2.00 to 4.00 pm. Please contact Mavis Thomson for more details on 01332 882 985.

Whist Drive

Meet every Friday night at 7.00 pm at the British Legion - contact Malcolm Parkin for more details 01332 880 160.

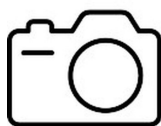


Camera Club

Forthcoming meetings at
The Old Oak Pub

10th December 2019
14th January 2020
11th February 2020

at 7.30 pm



Come along and join in

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers at the Sitwell Recreation Ground



Monday 7.00 - 8:30 pm - Scouts (10 ½-14 years)

Tuesday 7.00 - 8:30 pm - Explorers (14-18 years)

Wednesday 6:30 - 8.00 pm - Cubs Scouts (8-10½ years)

Thursday 6.00 - 7.00 pm - Beaver Scouts (6-8 years)

Please contact Ian Britton, GSL, 1st Sitwell Scout Group on:

M: 07847 207 756

E: gsl@1stsitwellscoutgroup.co.uk

Horsley Woodhouse Ladies Group

We meet in the British Legion Hall, first Thursday of each month at 7.00 pm

There will be no meeting in the British Legion Hall until 6th February when Stephen Booth will be speaking. Stephen is a well-known local author, this will be an open meeting, gentlemen welcome, please bring along your friends.

For more details contact Pat Dickinson on 01332 880 858

Over 60's Club - at the British Legion Hall

So, we approach the festive season with the Club in good shape financially and membership at a good level. We have been fortunate in securing a substantial grant from Amber Valley CVS and this will enable us to bring a number of different events for members to enjoy.

Gethin from the Co-Op came and talked to us in October, part serious and part humorous, Tax-Care and Toy Boys, sound advice from a qualified professional. In November we had a talk from Barbara Daykin from Morley with an afternoon of the unexpected, those like myself who know Barbara will know just what I mean.

Meeting scheduled:

- **Thursday 5th December** - we head for Eckington Community Hall for our annual Christmas lunch, followed by bingo for good cash prizes and the big Christmas raffle.
- **Last meeting of the year on Tuesday 17th December** - we have our Christmas party, buffet and Sandra will entertain supported by Ben (her husband), usual sing a long and a good start to the Christmas period.

Don Barham, Hon Secretary

Horsley Woodhouse and Smalley Royal British Legion

Once again, the Remembrance period passes and we are left to reflect on the excellent service held in the Parish Church, so relevant to the occasion and then the simple but so poignant ceremony at the village war memorial on the Sitwell Recreational Ground.

This was followed in the afternoon with a similar service in the Methodist Church, once more the names were read out and tributes paid to those men of Horsley

Woodhouse who left the village and now rest overseas; with four exceptions who died back in their own country.

Branch continues to meet on the first Monday of the month, our next meeting will be the AGM Monday 2nd December **(Members only)**.

Don Barham Treasurer
Horsley Woodhouse and
Smalley Royal British Legion



Local Clubs, Community Groups & Societies cont...

Horsley Woodhouse Walking Group

Wed 4th Dec – 1) Breadsall & Great Northern Greenway (2.75 miles). Meet at the Meteor Centre at 9.45 am.

Wed 11th Dec – Marehay circular walk & back for dinner (2.25 miles). Meet at the Village Inn, Marehay at 9.45 am.

Wed 18th Dec – Darley Abbey/River Derwent (3 miles). Meet at Chester Green car park at 9.45 am.

Wed 25th Dec – NO WALK

January details (TBC):
Walks should be available on 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th January 2020 weather permitting.

For more information contact:

Jane Stallion 01773 841 428
or
Gordon McNeil 07740 243 825



Horsley & Coxbench WI

Please note that Horsley & Coxbench WI have now moved back to the newly refurbished Horsley Village Hall.

Contact: S Meynell on 01332 880 561 or shirleymeynell@btinternet.com.

If you are a group or local club and would like to be included in this section please contact Tania Pells (Editor) on editorwudhusnews@gmail.com.

'Cinderella' Pantomime

Stargazers Drama Group will be presenting their family pantomime 'Cinderella' at Horsley Woodhouse Church Hall in February 2020. Tickets will be on sale in January at £5.00 and £3.00 for concessions and children. Ask any cast member to reserve tickets for you or call in at our rehearsals at the Kilburn Welfare and Social Club, Chapel Street, Kilburn every Monday from 7.00 till 9.00 pm.



The performance dates are:
Thursday 20th February at 7.15 pm
Friday 21st February at 3.00 & 7.15 pm
Saturday 22nd February at 3.00 & 7.15 pm



The show will be a magical mixture of singing, dancing and romantic comedy. Don't miss it if you want to see a pumpkin turned into a golden horse-drawn coach!

Ray Rippingale, Chair of Stargazers Drama Group

Thursday weekly Chair Exercise - 10.30 to 11.00 am and Chair, Care and Chatter Club

These Age U.K. Derby and Derbyshire Chair Exercise sessions have become so popular that they have now moved into the large Sitwell Room in the Church Hall. They are a weekly light hearted group of people who enjoy each other's company plus the skills of Diane Cliff the Instructor, who mixes her skills with a light hearted demeanour.

There is now a friendly Carers Social Group running alongside this Exercise Group in the adjoining room. **This Group gathers every 2nd Thursday of the month.** The Carer who supports the person in the Exercise Group can enjoy a coffee, biscuits, a relaxing time and a chatter with like minded people while their loved one has the assurance that they are close by. Also any advice or information can be discussed with the Derbyshire Carers' Association representative.

If you are a Carer and would like to come along and join in, don't hesitate....you'll be assured of a warm welcome and at the same time your loved one has the security of having you nearby while they exercise.

Any queries please call 07919 116 585 or 07837 277 252

Horsley Woodhouse
FREE

Christmas Spectacular!

Our local Safer Neighbourhood Team are organising a special event for our younger people between the ages of 9 and 16 years.

This will be held in the Church Hall on

Friday 20th December 2019 from 6.00 til 8.00 pm.

There will be a Disco and Entertainment with Refreshments too.

The Team will be popping into the School to tell you all about it.

You must have a ticket for this event so if you'd like a free ticket for this special occasion, contact

the Heanor and Langley Mill Safer Neighbourhood Team on their Facebook Page **Heanor and Langley Mill Police SNT** or contact Sheila on 07803 158 235 and she'll be pleased to help.

Merry Christmas

St Susanna's Parish Church

December 2019

1st at 3.30 – Songs of Praise Special Advent Sunday

Family Service

8th at 3.30 pm – Holy Communion

15th at 3.30 pm – Christmas Carol Service

22nd at 3.30 pm – Evensong

24th at 3.30 pm – Family Crib Service

25th 10.30 am – Holy Communion for Christmas Day

29th at 10.00 am – Group Service of Holy Communion at St. James, Codnor

January 2020

5th at 3.30 pm – Evensong

12th at 3.30 pm – Holy Communion

19th at 3.30 pm – Evensong

26th at 3.30 pm – Evensong


 Please come along and join us for a
 
Festive Evening of Christmas Music
 featuring Marlpool URC Theatre Co.
in St Susanna's Church

Wednesday 4th December at 7.15 pm
Mince Pies/Coffee/Tea
Entrance £5.00



Pat's Garden Party

A big thank you to all who came along to support St Susanna's at Pat's garden party. The weather was lovely and we were able to enjoy the sunshine in the



garden. There was a raffle and tombola, local produce and cake and book stalls. A total of £395 was raised. Much needed funds to help keep our beautiful village church up and running.

Dates for your Diary, some additional functions at the Church Hall

14th December - Andy Quinn and Hilary Leam's "Christmas Countdown" at 7.30 pm. An evening of Christmas Song, Swing and Carols. Tickets £10.00. Contact 07896 759 024 or 07743 7231 45.

13th December - 7.00 to 9.00 pm. The Getting to Know You Cafe presents "An Evening of Christmas Entertainment". It's a cracker for only £1.50. Buffet and bring your own drinks if required. Please contact Sheila on 07803 158 235 for a ticket, as we need to cater for numbers please.

18th December - The last Getting to Know You Cafe of 2019. Music, Carols and Christmas treats.

Date	Activity	Contact details
Monday	7.00 to 8.15 pm - Line Dancing & 5.30 to 6.30 pm - Circuit Training	Megan 01159 326 217 Julie Cole 07976 710 882
Tuesday	10.30 to 11.30 am - Yoga & Relevétion Dance Academy: 4.30 to 5.00 pm - Pre-Primary Ballet (4-6yrs) 5.00 to 5.45 pm - Primary Ballet (6-10yrs) 5.55 to 6.25 pm - Primary Tap (6-10yrs) 6.25 to 6.55 pm - Primary Modern (6-10yrs) 6.55 to 7.55 pm - Acrobatics (6-10yrs) 8.00 to 9.00 pm - Adult Latin	Anita 01332 842 070 Leanne 07500 823 243
Wednesday	Relevétion Dance Academy: 9.30 to 10.15 - Toddle in Time (2-5yrs) 10.30 to 11.30 am - Adult Ballet & 6.30 to 7.30 pm - Circuit Training	Leanne 07500 823 243 Julie Cole 07976 710 882
Thursday	10.00 to 11.30 am - Chair Based Exercise & 5.30 & 7.30 pm - Slimming World	Diane 07919 116 585 Tracy 07821 616 372
Friday	11.00 to 12 noon - Qigong/Tai Chi	Angela 07762 380 277
Saturday	10.30 to 11.30 am - Zumba classes	Cathy 07963 738 137

If you are interested in booking the Church Hall for meetings, parties and other functions, or on behalf of Societies and Clubs, please contact Sheila Cullen (the Bookings Secretary) on 07803 158 235.

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers & Explorers

Explorers

Just like to say a big THANK YOU to Progressive Self Defence & Tae Kwon-Do Academy for showing the Ignis Explorers how to do some basics self-defence moves, no Explorers or Leaders were hurt during the event - it was brilliant and great fun.

Some of our Ignis Explorers had a great time climbing this weekend - thanks to @TheClimbingSASU

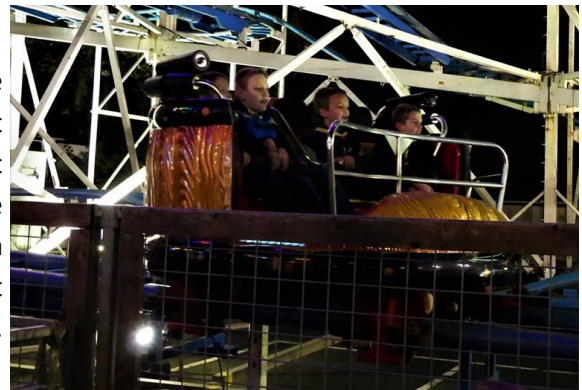


Cubs

Black hole, pumpkin carving, Kinect sports, Wii, Lego, and a little bit of sleep, all part of the Cubs sleepover! Hope the young people had a great time at the sleepover. Thanks to the leaders for giving up their time for free.



Cubs went to the Ilkeston Fair last month. For some it was the first time they had been to a fair - it was great fun.



A little Dragon's Den style night in November. The Cubs had to build a 'camp gadget', and present it to the Leaders in the hope they could sell them!

With perhaps the last summer weekend of the year we had a great shared Spitewinter camp between 1st Sitwell, 3rd Codnor and Ignis Explorers. The Scouts also did some serious hiking in prep for Kinder next month. We are also getting ready for the shared Peak 2020 event. Thanks to Andy, Kev, Karen, Rob, Claire and John for being there as leaders. Also, the three young leaders.



Scouts had 30 pumpkins and a million pumpkin seeds. What can go wrong?

We would just like to say a big THANK YOU to both Marye and Rhiannon for braving the floods in November and bringing Tilly Marye's assistant dog to show us how she assists her in her day to day life - it was brilliant.

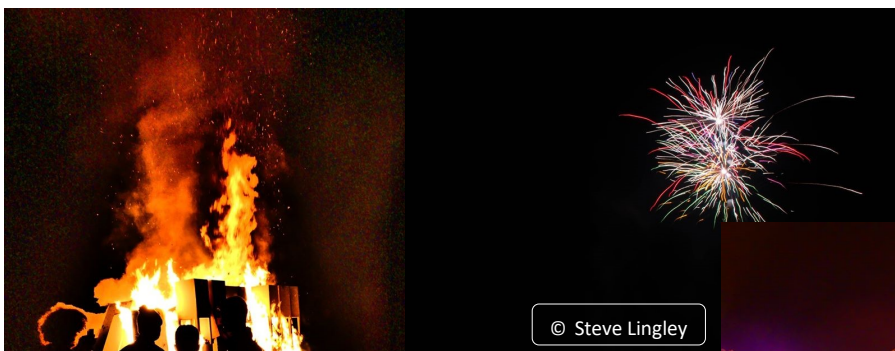
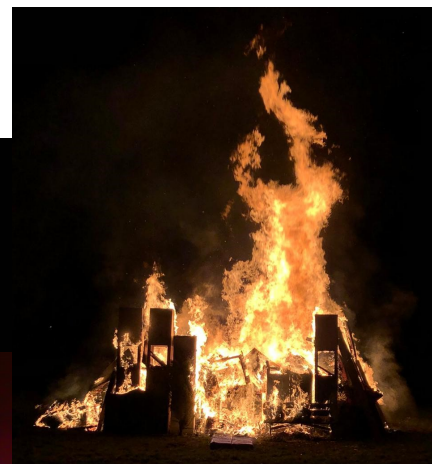


Very pleased and proud that we have over 70 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Ignis Explorers and leaders attended the Remembrance Sunday event on 10th November. Many thanks for the support group doing the refreshments at the Scout Hut at the end of the parade.



Bonfire night

Wow what a great bonfire event we had this year. Many thanks to all who attended and all who helped run the event. It's hard work but the money goes toward the upkeep of the Scout Hut. We had two great bands and of course great entertainment by the Explorers and their higher and lower game. Our bonfire event Facebook page did well with the photo competition – thanks for all of the entries – and great feedback too. **Next year's planning has started already and we hope to hold the event on the 31st October, so book the date in your calendars.** Again thanks for your support.



© Steve Lingley



© Steve Lingley



Horsley Woodhouse Methodist Church

SERVICES

December 2019

Sunday 1st – *Advent Sunday* Service at 2.30 pm led by Mr David Gent

Sunday 8th

10.30 am – **Café Church. Call in for a coffee/tea. Opportunity to make Christmas Cards**

2.30 pm – Service with Holy Communion at 2.30 pm led by Revd John Malnutt

Sunday 15th

10.30 am – **Christingle & Gift Service** led by Mrs Anna Malnutt. *Come and bring the family (Gift Envelopes for the Air Ambulance)*

6.00 pm – **Carol Service** led by members of our congregation. *You will be most welcome*

Sunday 22nd – Service at 2.30 pm led by Revd John Malnutt

Tuesday 25th – *Christmas Day* - Service at 9.30 am led by Revd John Malnutt

Sunday 29th – Service at 2.30 pm led by Revd Julian Penfold

January 2020

Sunday 5th at 2.30 pm – Service led by Revd Stephen Pratt

Sunday 12th

10.30 am – Café Church

2.30 pm – Service led by Mr Keith Bryan

Sunday 19th at 2.30 pm – Covenant Service with Holy Communion led by Revd John Malnutt

Sunday 26th at 2.30 pm – Service led by Revd Paul Beard

Date for your Diary

Carols & Buffet - Tuesday 10th December at 7.00 pm. Free Admission. Donations for our Church funds. Bring & Share Buffet. Raffle. Carols and entertainment with Peter Morley. *All are welcome to join with us.*

Harvest Weekend - Grateful thanks to all who helped and supported our Harvest Services and Supper. *The Gifts and Goods were gratefully received by the Padley Centre.*

A Memorial Service in celebration of the life of *Revd Roy Queripel* was held at Duffield Methodist Church on 11th October. Roy worshipped with us regularly, as well as leading worship. We held a *Songs of Praise* on 27th October when Roy was due to take our Service. One of the hymns we sang was in memory of Roy, and one he had chosen to be sung at his *Thanksgiving Service*. He will be missed.

Thanks Following an appeal in the *Wudhus News* we are grateful to those who remove their vehicles outside our church at our time of worship on a Sunday. From now, until the end of March, our Services will be at 2.30 pm - **except for Sunday 15th December.**

Minister:
Revd John
Malnutt

**Church
Contact:**

Mrs
Phyllis
Shaw

Tel:
01332
880 083

Councillor Kevin BATTERY – Keeping you Updated

Amber Valley Borough Council passed the resolution to hold elections for Borough Councillors once every four years, as against by thirds. This could save the Council £140k over the four-year period. It is now awaiting the Boundary Commission to undertake a review. I anticipate that the changes will not be in place until 2023, at the earliest.

Derbyshire County Council is making progress on its Carbon Reduction Plan since making a pledge in May this year to reduce carbon and take action on climate change. Actions so far include undertaking 300 business energy audits, resulting in a saving of 860 tonnes of carbon. The carbon emissions from Council buildings have reduced by 48% since 2010. We are looking at installing 50 electric vehicle charging points around the county and plan to buy electric vehicles for council usage. This is particularly pertinent at this moment as we are experiencing unprecedented levels of rain and flooding. The question of building future homes on flood plains is a topic that planners need to address, although I accept this may need changes in legislation or National Planning Policy. Too many houses are built in areas prone to flooding, leaving councils and other services to deal with the aftermath. This, together with

the devastating cost to the householder. **If you have been affected by flooding, Derbyshire County Council has set up a £100,000 Derbyshire Floods Hardship Fund for Residents and the Derbyshire Floods Business Hardship Fund, to offer financial help to those who have been impacted.**

Please stay safe during these extreme weather conditions, the County Council website has advice on how to protect your property from flooding. If necessary, stock up on sandbags, **Amber Valley Borough Council Out of Hours Emergency number is 01773 841 414.** Do not wait until your property is flooded before asking for help with sandbags. Let Derbyshire County Council or myself know of any blockages or obstructions to streams, culverts, drains etc. If necessary, sign up to receive flood alerts from the Environment Agency. If you have to make a journey, check which roads are closed and please do not drive or walk through floodwater, as two feet (60cm) can float your vehicle and drains do pop open, which you cannot see.

Parents can now apply for primary school places for September 2020, this can be done online or by ringing Derbyshire on 01629 533 190. A reminder that all three and four

year old children in the county are entitled to 15 hours funded early education a week, with some working parents being eligible to receive 30 hours a week.

I am aware that a number of families are not applying for free school meals which their children are entitled to. If you are not sure whether your child is eligible, please ring our free school meals team on 01629 536 481 or register online, which is quick, easy and confidential. As well as supporting your child, you will be also supporting the school, who receive a £1,000 'pupil premium' per year from the Government for every pupil eligible for free school meals. This money supports teaching and facilities, as well as trips and activities for the whole school.

If there is an issue I can help you with, please contact me on 01332 781 092 or kevin.battery@derbyshire.gov.uk.



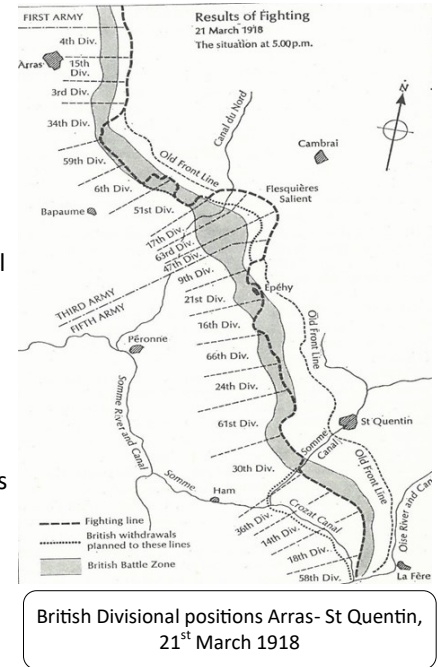
“Missing”

Two Horsley Woodhouse Servicemen, Two World Wars

Part Two – The Western Front, WW1:

4.00 am, 21st March 1918, 76 German Divisions are ready for a major offensive (the “Kaiserschlacht”) on a 60-mile front. 32 of these Divisions form the first wave, their assault will hit the British 3rd and 5th Armies holding the lines from Arras to St Quentin. 24th Division (5th Army) are in positions NW of St Quentin; one of its units is the 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade, one of whose soldiers is Corporal Thomas Marshall of the village of Horsley Woodhouse.

It is cold, mist and fog shroud the front, the British are expecting an attack. 4.40 am, at St Quentin a large white rocket bursts above the German lines signalling the start of a thunderous artillery bombardment, the ground shakes under a maelstrom of fire. Tom Marshall has experienced bombardments before, but this is massive, he and his men take cover as the whole defensive positions heave and vibrate. Searing hot shrapnel tears wounds, men are buried as trench sides blow in; gas warnings sound, men struggle into protective helmets as the air becomes clogged with smoke, dust, cordite and gas from bursting shells. Tom steadies his men; medics and stretcher bearers try to help the wounded - some men are killed outright. Communications are smashed, company runners blunder around with messages, endurance is tested to the limit as shells hammer home.



British Divisional positions Arras- St Quentin, 21st March 1918

The 60-mile attack front was hit by a bombardment from almost 6,500 German artillery guns and mortars firing some 3.2 million shells in a 5-hour long storm, hitting targets in a 150 square mile area of British held territory.

Tom does not know that the shelling will last 5 hours, but he knows that, once it stops, his men will have to defend what is left of their positions against the German infantry. Tom hears some British counter-shelling but knows this will not prevent anything. 9.35 am, the bombardment intensifies; 5 minutes later shelling stops. The few minutes relative silence tell the British that the first wave of German infantry is coming, crouched over weapons they peer into the fog. The British front line is mostly gone, German storm troops flood over cratered ruins littered with the dead and wounded. Soon British battalions in the Forward Zone are reduced to small groups of men, mostly led by corporals. Tom is doing his best, his men are dazed, cold and shocked, the fog renders them “near blind” as German storm troops push into the Forward Zone followed by battle group infantry. The men remaining in the Forward Zone resist as best they can, but positions begin to fall, the defenders are forced back.

By late morning large parts of the British Forward Zone are lost, only isolated redoubts and “keeps” hold out. Tom does not know it, but Fifth Army have lost 32 battalions in this zone, it would not have helped him to know that the original German attack wave was being reinforced by 30 more Divisions.

The British forward defences have crumbled, Tom and his men are in the Battle Zone as the fighting continues.

Note. *I am not certain whether Tom and his men were originally in the Forward Zone before falling back to the Battle Zone, or, alternatively, whether they were manning the Battle Zone from the start. Either way, the fighting experienced would have been similar as the Germans often reached the Battle Zone within 20 to 30 minutes of the start of their infantry assault.*

More artillery fire comes in as the Germans shell at increasing ranges (a so called “creeping barrage”) allowing their

infantry to attack the Battle Zone. The mist and fog begin to clear, Tom knows that this will give a better chance of defence as the German infantry will become more visible crossing the open ground in front. German infantry come on, officers on horseback, more horses pulling artillery pieces. Tom encourages those around him, then action is joined as the Germans probe for weak spots. The Rifle Brigade men open fire, small fights take place in the lingering mist, the Germans begin to push in larger numbers, crawling forward - attacking in short rushes. Tom hears British Lewis gun fire amongst the rifle shots then Germans machine guns and light mortars "open up". The Germans break into the front of the Battle Zone but the British 24th Division are fighting well, Tom's men included, they are holding off the attacks which now include German "tater masher" grenade led attempts. As afternoon arrives, 24th Division take more casualties and yield some ground, but Tom knows that they are stopping the Germans from breaking deeper into the Battle Zone, he hears British artillery – "Christ, they must be firing over open sights". The mist has gone, British fire takes its toll as the Germans mount frontal attacks, the Rifle Brigade men fight on.

After some 7 hours of fighting, Tom is aware that things are "quietening down". He doesn't know the fuller picture but, despite casualties, his battalion has done well, they are holding their part of the Battle Zone.

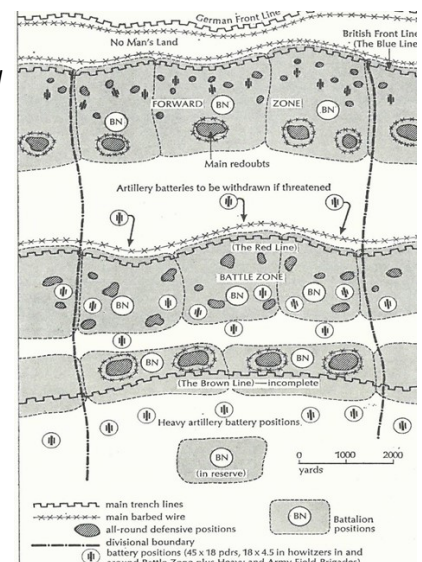
In fact, along the 19 mile stretch of 5th Army's lines from the Flesquieres salient down to the Somme Canal in front of St Quentin, only one division has been pushed to the back of its Battle Zone. Five divisions and one brigade are holding either the front of the Battle Zone or have stopped the Germans somewhere within the Zone. Part of 24th Division, Tom's 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade are included in these 5 divisions. 5th Army are now in the process of committing reserves, this includes cavalry arriving in the rear to "plug gaps" These cavalrymen will be fighting hard the next morning and thereafter. The Germans have plenty of infantry reserves moving forward together with artillery.

After 6.00pm, the fighting stops, by 7.50pm it is dark, Tom "draws breath" at last. His men are tired and he is anxious about the battle that he knows will continue in the morning. Mist descends and a bright moon rises, it will be a cold frosty night, he tries to settle.

It would not have helped Tom's sleep to know that the Germans had taken over 98 square miles of ground and that almost 7,500 British soldiers had been killed, 276 of them in the 24th Division.

Dawn, 22nd March, the German attack continues, the fighting similar in pattern and intensity to the previous day. In the 24th Division locality, Tom and the survivors of 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade are in action again. 5th Army are weakened, gradually ground is conceded as the Germans push their units to the back of the Battle Zone, then further to the rear. In fact, the next days and weeks will see the British forced back over the 1916 Somme battlefields, won at such cost; even the town of Albert, a noted British centre of previous years, is lost.

To this point my account has followed fact. Certain elements and phrases have been included in the interests of flow and continuity of the narrative and it is acknowledged that small parts of the story are inevitably speculative. That said, such inclusions do not have a significant impact on the factual thread. Hereafter, the account becomes a little more speculative, for history records that Corporal Thomas Marshall, 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade, was not seen alive again beyond the 22nd March 1918. He was "posted missing" and remains missing to this day, his body or remains never being identified or recovered, one of thousands claimed this way by the fortunes of war. How he died will almost certainly never be known, artillery fire perhaps? – we cannot be sure.



British defence layout, France 1918
(the rearmost Brown Line was barely started in 5th Army's part of the line)

“Missing” cont....

At some point, Tom’s wife Ada would have received notification (via Army Form B104-83) that he had been posted missing but may be a POW or temporarily “lost”, starting an agonising period of hope for her and Tom’s family. As official enquiries produced no further information, after 6 months, Ada would have received a further communication stating that Tom’s death, resulting from German offensive action on the 22nd March, was now presumed. Even then, hope would linger until, as the weeks became months, as the war ended and more time passed, came the deep-down acceptance that Tom would never come home.

Epilogue:

West of the ground where Tom met his end lie the 1916 Somme battlefields. Forming a central axis to these fields, the road from Albert to Bapaume runs “arrow straight” to the north-east. Along this road, some 4 miles from Albert is the village of Pozieres. Just SW of the village is the British CWGC cemetery, built into its walls is the memorial to the missing of 5th Army in the 1918 battles of the Somme region. One of the names is that of (Corporal) T Marshall, 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade, as far as I know, the only commemoration of Thomas on the Western Front. In one sense, stark, bleak, one name amongst thousands, yet in another, powerful, of gravity, for his name will remain there “in perpetuity”, the CWGC are charged to ensure that it is so. Corporal Thomas Marshall, missing, soldier of an unreturning army:



Part of the Memorial to the British 5th Army missing of the 1918 battles of the Somme region

We will remember him

Still to come: An Avro Lancaster Flight Engineer in the RAF Bomber Offensive of WW2...

Mick Barham

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If you wish to contact us or put an article forward:

If you would like to put forward any details to be included in the next edition of the Wudhus News please contact Tania Pells (Editor) at editorwudhusnews@gmail.com.

If you are holding a fund raiser, have some community news or you need support to write an article please get in touch.

All articles and information submitted will be reviewed by the Parish Council before it can be approved. Unfortunately we cannot advertise businesses within the newsletter or print personal letters.

If you wish to use any material that is listed within the Wudhus News, please contact Tania Pells (Editor) on the above email address.

Publishing Deadlines: Feb/Mar 2020 – 20th January 2020 and Apr/May – 20th Mar 2020

Unfortunately, any information received after the deadline will not be included but may go forward to the next edition.

Keeping the villages connected.... Kilburn News

Christmas Carol Service

Plans are also in hand for the annual Carol Service to be held this year on **Friday 6th December commencing at 6.30pm** in the Nursery School playground. The Mayor of Amber Valley Borough Council will be switching on the Christmas lights and Santa is also expected to make an appearance.



Kilburn 2019 Remembrance Parade & Service

Kilburn Parish Council held their annual Remembrance Parade and Service on Sunday 10th November 2019 which was led by the Newstead Brass Band and the Council were joined by local Scouting groups, councillors, Nigel Mills MP and other local dignitaries. There were also approximately 300 parishioners in attendance.

The parade came to a conclusion at the war memorial where the act of remembrance was carried out by Cllr David Hall – Chair of Kilburn Parish Council followed by the act of commitment and lords prayer by Reverend Andrew Taylor-Cook and Reverend Martin Jones.

The Service then continued in Kilburn Baptist Church where a short service took place followed by tea and biscuits hosted provided by the Scouts.



Kilburn Parish would like to thank the marshals who closed the roads as without them, the event would have been unable to go ahead.

Fly Tipping within the Parish

Kilburn Parish Council has had several reports of fly tipping across the parish over recent months.

We would ask that you remain vigilant and ensure that anything that you dispose of is done in a proper and legal manner and is not fly tipped as you will still be legally liable for prosecution if your items are illegally tipped.

If you see someone fly tipping make a note of:

- The date, time and place
- How many people are involved and what they look like
- What has been tipped - how much and what it looks like
- The details of any vehicles involved including make, colour and registration number if possible
- Remember - **never** approach anyone you see fly tipping - they could become violent

If you have a question about fly tipping call Amber Valley Borough Council on 01773 841 335.

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The traditional family
Pantomime



at
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Main Street, DE7 6AT

Thu 20th February at 3.00 pm

Fri 21st February at 3.00 & 7.15 pm

Sat 22nd February at 3.00 & 7.15 pm

Tickets £5 and £3 for concessions
& children

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WINTER WUDUSLAND
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PROFITS TO THE STARGAZERS,
THE CHURCH HALL FABRIC FUND
& THE METHODIST CHAPEL

The Benefice of the Denby Group

St Susanna's Church

Horsley Woodhouse

**The First Service of Christmas
2019**

Advent Sunday Family Service
1st Dec 2019 at 3.30 pm



*You are warmly invited to join us at our
special family Advent Sunday service
and see the first advent candle lit at the
start of the journey to Christmas*



"THE GETTING TO KNOW YOU" CAFÉ
HW CHURCH HALL

2.00 - 3.30 PM WEDNESDAYS, £1.50

Wed 27th December. An afternoon of music
with The Meeces.

Friday 13th Evening. 7.00 - 9.00 pm. An
evening of Seasonal Entertainment and Buffet
Supper all for £1.50. Please call 07803 158 235
and let us know if you'd like to attend as we
need to cater for numbers.

Wednesday 18th December. The last Café of
2019. You will be treated to an afternoon of
Music, Christmas Carols and seasonal treats.

The first few dates of 2020 are:- 8th Jan, 22nd
Jan & 5th Feb. We have more music and
entertainment planned, together with an
afternoon of HW history, talks and
demonstrations, stalls, hobbies and anything
else of interest. **Plus the things which are
always guaranteed, tea, coffee, cakes,
biscuits and lots of fun and friendship!**

Now tell me about hundreds of things.

Saki

Multimedia Design by Sandy