

SIGNPOST

Ruskington Village Magazine

Spring 2023

THE ARTS SOCIETY
HOLLAND & KESTEVEN



1ST AIRBORNE
RECONNAISSANCE
SQUADRON

Be a Councillor
Local Elections in
May 2023

Free Edition



Welcome...

Spring has sprung!

A new year and new beginnings for Signpost magazine. My name is Scott Johnstone and I have recently joined the team at Ruskington Parish Council. This is my first edition as editor, and I hope you enjoy the new(ish) layout and selection of great articles.

I would like to thank all our past advertisers; and if you are reading this as a potential new advertiser, please do get in touch, we would love to help you grow your business. Without your adverts, the future of Signpost may be in doubt.

There are some fantastic articles in this edition for you to enjoy. We have information about the 1st Airborne Reconnaissance Squadron based in Ruskington during WW2, the Arts Society of Holland & Kesteven, updates from your Neighbourhood Policing Team and local schools, info about the upcoming Local Government Elections and becoming a Councillor, details of local events to celebrate the King's Coronation and of course not forgetting the village community listings of What's on.

All that remains is to wish you all a lovely Spring and a reminder to keep sending in articles, ideas, and community information, we love hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Scott

Features...

3 Parish Council Updates

4 What's on

6 Spring is in the Air (All Saints Church)

9 Memorial to Airborne Reconnaissance

14 The Arts Society Holland & Kesteven

16 Neighbourhood Policing News

18 Cemetery News

19 Your Parish Council Needs You!

20 Chestnut Street School Updates

28 Winchelsea Primary School Updates

Distributed FREE to local businesses, schools and community organisations in Ruskington

Publisher: Ruskington Parish Council
Telephone: 01526 834483

Email: admin@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Address: 7-9 High Street North, Ruskington NG34 9DY

 /RuskingtonPC  www.ruskington.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Opinions or claims expressed within articles or advertisements in this magazine are not necessarily the opinions of its editor or the Parish Council and they take no responsibility as to the validity or reliability of any information contained herein. Readers should exercise the normal precautions before entering into any form of contract based on said advertisements. The Ruskington Parish Council Signpost Magazine is an independent publication mainly funded through advertising. Any complaints regarding its content should be put in writing and addressed to The Editor at the Parish Council Offices.

Ruskington Parish Council Updates

Spring 2023 will be a busy time for Ruskington Parish Council (RPC). Councillors and staff are already engaged in preparing for two major events this year, the Local Government elections and King's Coronation celebrations in May.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

'All out' Parish Council elections take place every 4 years to coincide with elections to the District Council. The last Parish Council elections took place in May 2019 and the next scheduled elections will be in May 2023. Interested in being a Parish Councillor? Read our article on page 21.

KING'S CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

A community led Ruskington Events Team will organise a fun day at Parkfield Playing Fields on Sunday 7 May 2023 from 11am to 4pm.

Planning has commenced and the volunteer group hope, to include a dog show, football match, coronation themed fancy dress competition, a sausage slinging competition, bake-off, food stalls, ice-cream van, and to encourage all local groups and organisations to have a pitch (at no charge).

RPC will be inviting all High Street businesses to fly a Union flag (purchased and installed by RPC in the Christmas tree brackets) and to take part

in a Best Dressed (coronation themed) Window Competition. Orders for Union flag to the RFO at rfo@ruskingtonpc.org.uk or by **23 March 2023**.

Residents are encouraged to arrange street parties and RPC can provide info and guidance on road closure paperwork.

As part of the Coronation year celebrations, our local schools will to be invited to design a crest for a Ruskington boundary sign that can be installed at the main highway entrances to the village.

OTHER PROJECTS

A public consultation will be held in the coming months regarding the development of the Pavilion on Parkfield Playing Fields. All residents are invited to attend, details to be announced soon via our social media channels and parish office noticeboard.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 23 May 2023 at 6.30pm in the Winchelsea Centre. All residents are warmly invited to attend and share your ideas for improving our village. Local community groups and organisations are also welcome to attend and showcase their activities. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact the Clerk at clerk@ruskingtonpc.org.uk or call 01526 834483.



What's on...

Ruskington Village Hall*

Bingo - Meets every Thursday 7pm - 10pm.

Lincoln Judo Academy - Mondays 6:30pm-7:30pm. Contact 07539 320864.

Ruskington Rascals Preschool - All day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Mornings on Monday and Thursdays. Term time only. Contact Linda 07545954412.

Short Mat Bowls - Meet every Monday & Thursdays 2pm - 4pm. Contact Patrick 07946 454047.

Slimming World - Meet every Tuesday 5pm and 6:30pm. Contact Sam Wheatley 07721 364922.

Sleaford Model Railway - Meet every Wednesday 7pm - 10pm.

**General info: info@ruskingtonvillagehall.org
Bookings: ruskingtonvh@gmail.com*

Ruskington Youth Centre*

Knit & Natter Group - Meets every Monday 10:30am - 3:30pm and 10am - 4pm (BST). Contact Edwina Coleman 07931109081.

Rainbow Flyers Youth Club - Children and young adults with special needs. Sunday 3pm - 5pm. Contact Karen Kenward 07811 598681.

Ruskington Community Youth Club - Meet every Tuesday 6pm - 7:30pm. (School year 4-8). Contact Maggie Harris 07443 851813.

Ruskington Amateur Theatrical Society Meet every Thursday 6pm - 8pm (8-18yrs).

**For hire contact Maggie Harris 07443 851813*

Ruskington Library

Ruskington Community Library is open:

Tuesday 10am - 12pm

Thursday 1pm - 4pm

Saturday 10am - 12pm

Tel: 01526 833420 (Tue/Thu/Sat)

Winchelsea Centre*

All Saints Ladies Club - Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month (except August) at 7:30pm. Events planned for 2023—various talks and demos, cinema trips, shopping trips and the annual dinner. Contact Rose 01526 832566.

All Saints Pop-up Fayre - Every 3rd Saturday

of the month (December weekly) 9am - 12pm. Stalls selling food and drink, gift items and promoting local clubs. Contact Caroline 07719280965 or caroline.morrice@sky.com.

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust - Every 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30pm. Contact Anthea 01529 413890.

Scrabble Club - Every first Thursday of the month 7pm - 9:30pm. Contact Anne on 01526 833276.

Fitness Pilates - Every Friday 11am - 12pm. Contact Nikki 07890704799.

Fitsteps - Every Wednesday 10:30am—11:30am Contact Sophie on 07929207143.

Evergreen Club - Every Friday 2pm - 4pm. Contact Lyn Gardner on 01526 833630 or 07450382628.

Keep fit with Kimberley Exercise to music for the over 50s. Free taster session. Monday's 11:30am and 12:25pm. Contact Kimberley on 07432 479835.

Bridge - Every Wednesday 1pm - 3:30pm Contact Jenny Wright on 01526 833896.

**for hire please contact Jan or Rob Goddard on 01526 834228*

All Saints Church

Walking for Health - Every Wednesday at 1:30pm at All Saints Church. Contact Judith Kirk 01526 832987.

Methodist Church

Digital Hub - Every Thursday morning during term time from 10:30am—12pm. Get online, & improve your digital skills. Run by NKDC staff & volunteers. 1:1 tailored support & advice. Contact Mandy Lancaster 01529 414155.

Ruskington Women's Institute (WI) - Meets every 2nd Wednesday at 7:15pm. Contact Christine Casey 01526 832132

U3A Gardening Club - Meets 1st Monday 2pm -4pm Contact Lynn Geen 01529 413843

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides - Monday evenings during term time. Contact Mrs Sarah Coughlin 01522 789429

Free Church

The Bretherton Handbell Ringers - Meets Tuesday evenings 7pm-9pm. Contact Judith



Churches...

All Saints Church

Priest in Charge - The Reverend Al Jenkins
revajenkins@gmail.com or 07961654486

Church Wardens - Diana Holt 01526 832087
or 07949107035, dianaholt196@yahoo.co.uk

Alwyn Kirk 01526 832987, alwyno@aol.com

Secretary - Caroline Morrice 01526 830717 or
07719280965, caroline.morrice@sky.com

Pastoral Visiting - Please contact Reverend

Al.

Services

Morning Prayer - Monday to Friday at 8.45am

Sundays - Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sunday
@ 11am

For All the Church Family - 2nd and 4th Sunday
@ 11am

Benefice Praise Service - 5th Sunday when
they occur @ 4pm

Baptisms & Weddings - Please contact Rev-
erend Al or Diana Holt

Bookings Secretary - Mrs Judith Kirk
01526 832987

Church Treasurer - Mr Richard Olliffe
01526 268375

Pastoral Secretary - Mrs Kath Martin
01526 833438

Services

Sunday Worship - 11am

Messy Church - Children's group. Meets the
2nd Saturday of the month. Contact
Rebecca Guilliat 01526 569684.

Midweek Communion - Meets every 2nd
Wednesday of the month at 10:45am

Lunch Bunch - Meets every 2nd and 4th
Tuesday.

Pleasant Monday Afternoon - Every 4th
Monday at 2.15pm. Contact June Olliffe 01526
286375

Ruskington Free Church

Church Secretary - Mr. George Phillips, 41
Station Road, Ruskington, NG34 9DF, 01526
833263.

Email George.phillips41@btinternet.com

Services

Sunday Service and Sunday School - 11am

Womens' Own - Meets the first Thursday of
the month 7pm

South Lincs Church

19 Westgate, Ruskington, NG34 9ES
01526 834275

www.southlincschurch.co.uk

Email: info@southlincschurch.co.uk

Find us on Facebook.

Senior Leader - Dave Wade—
dave@southlincschurch.co.uk

Services & Groups

"Sunday Celebration" - Every Sunday 10am -
11am.

Contact us or visit our website for details of all
our other activities.

Ruskington Methodist Church

Minister - Reverend Gabriele Britton-Voss
01526 830192

Church Secretary - Mrs. Delia Dubois
01526 268723





SPRING IS IN THE AIR

It is wonderful to live in the countryside. Walking through the various fields and woods surrounding Ruskington Spring is being heralded by Snowdrops, Daffodils, aconites and many more flowers.

It is a time of recognising new life in the earth and a time to grow. When you are reading this we will all be trying to do something for Lent, giving up coffee or chocolate or any amount of things which we feel are important in our lives.

This giving up mirrors Jesus in the wilderness as he fasts (not eating) and prepares himself for the road to Easter.

For some families they have had to give things up because the difficult economic situation has had such an impact on their finances and lives. The boxes for the food larder are being very generously filled across the village so thank you to all who are and can contribute to helping others.

Warm Spaces The Churches in Ruskington are providing spaces in the week for those who might like some company, a

cup of tea and a chat. At All Saints this is on Warm Welcome Wednesday from 10am to 12noon at the Old School House next to the Winchelsea Centre. Our brothers and sisters offer similar on Tuesday at South Lincs Church and Fridays at the Methodist Church. *(Please note that we offer these events in term time only)*

Messy Church has become an important part of so many young family lives as they come to join us to learn something about Jesus and each other through craft, play and worship. Please look at the A Church Near You (Ruskington) page for details of each event. They are normally held on the first Saturday of each month.

Mothering Sunday on the 19th of March will be a day of feast from the Lenten fast. Where we celebrate the life of Mother Church and all of those women who have had such a wonderful influence on our lives.

Easter is an expectant time in the Church year. We go pageantry of Palm Sunday, to the Last Supper to the sadness of Good Friday to the absolute Joy of Easter Day. We hope that you might be part of that journey with us. Our services for the coming months up to and including **Easter** are listed below. We continue to be so grateful for the messages of support which we receive for what we are trying to do as All Saints in the village. Working together with other sister churches we have been able to offer our **Easter and Christmas Trails** as well as the **Warm Spaces**. It is exciting to be part of that and we would love you to be too. We had a wonderful time with our schools too through Open the Book, church visits as well as the Big Snuggle and Father Christmas Great Gift Giveaway with St Georges Academy. Thank you to everyone.

We hope to welcome many of you to All Saints throughout Spring. However you enjoy your springtime I pray that you will feel the presence of new life, in our church and in our village.

Blessings from Reverend Al and everyone at All Saints.

Services at All Saints Ruskington – Lent and Easter 2023

Date	Time	Service All Saints Ruskington
04 March 2023	3-5pm	Messy Church Chestnut Street CofE School
19 March 2023	11am	Mothering Sunday
01 April 2023	3-5pm	Messy Church Chestnut Street CofE School
02 April 2023	11am	Palm Sunday
04 April 2023	10am	Easter Trail – Beginning at the Methodist Church
06 April 2023	7pm	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion
07 April 2023	11:30am	Good Friday Service - Winchelsea Centre Car Park followed by a Service of Reflection in Church
08 April 2023	6pm	Easter Saturday - Evening Prayer
09 April 2023	6:15am	Sunrise Service – (followed by breakfast bag)
09 April 2023	11am	Easter Morning Holy Communion
16 April 2023	11am	Morning Praise
23 April 2023	11am	Holy Communion
30 April 2023	11am	Benefice Sung Holy Communion
30 April 2023	3pm	Benefice Songs of Praise



Multiply

Does the thought of needing to do maths at work or at home make you anxious?

We are offering a range of informal and relaxed ways to improve your maths skills in local community centres and venues near you.

For further information, please contact us on:

multiply@voluntarycentreservices.org.uk or call 01522 551683



Funded by Multiply in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council



We are **Strong Voices**

Join us to help make
our communities **feel**
and **be** even **safer**



LINCOLNSHIRE
Strong Voices



We are looking for 11–21
year olds in Lincolnshire,
who want to work
together to make positive
changes where they live.



Marc Jones
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
LINCOLNSHIRE - SAFER TOGETHER

http://



bit.ly/lincsstrongvoices

THE MEMORIAL TO AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE ALL SAINTS CHURCH RUSKINGTON

All Saints Church in Ruskington holds a unique memorial dedicated to two separate reconnaissance squadrons, the 1st Airborne Reconnaissance Squadron (1st AB Recce), a WWII unit and the Parachute Squadron Royal Armoured Corps (Para Sqn RAC), from the 1960s. Why is it there? 1st AB Recce, a squadron of around 250 men was formed in 1941 led by the renowned Freddie Cough and in 1943 saw action in North Africa and then up through Italy. It came to Ruskington, close to several airfields to re-arm and prepare for whatever came next.



Its equipment was mainly American Willys jeeps. The majority of the men were parachute trained and were part of the war-time Airborne Forces. There were frequent preparations for operations which were always cancelled, leading to a certain amount of frustration. The soldiers themselves settled in to village life and the squadron became an integral part of the village. Many had local girlfriends and six were locals themselves. As part of the village they frequented the local pubs and dances at the YMCA. Militarily they were getting frustrated and ready for action.

On Sunday the 17th of September 1944 at 0500 hours their call to action came. They left the village in a convoy of trucks and boarded American aircraft at Barkston Heath, with the glider party transporting the Sqn's jeeps taking off in Horsa gliders from Tarrant Rushton in Dorset. They fully expected cancellation like so often before, but it wasn't to be and they took off for the fateful battle of Arnhem.

Their mission was to hold the bridge at Arnhem for around 24 hours but their battle lasted nine long days and nights and they took heavy casualties. On the 25th of September they were ordered to withdraw over the river and meet approaching land forces. Of the 199 of them who had left Ruskington to parachute into Holland only 80 escaped over the river Rhine, the rest were ei-



ther dead, wounded or captured. On the 29th of September what remained of the Squadron arrived back at Ruskington. Ten trucks had taken them to Barkston and only two were required to bring the survivors back. It was 11pm but they leapt out of the trucks and went straight to the Shoulder of Mutton pub where the landlord opened up for them. Despite the late hour, the villagers turned out to hear their story. This is commemorated in the Shoulder of Mutton by a montage of photographs. The Squadron was disbanded shortly after the end of the war. In 1947, the survivors paid for and built a memorial to those lost in action. It took only a fortnight to install, using local stone and artisans. A feat in itself.



In 1964 a new airborne reconnaissance squadron, The Para Sqn RAC was formed. It drew volunteers from all cavalry and tank regiments and was based in Tidworth Hampshire. It supported 16 Parachute Brigade as their anti tank and Recce force. The Sqn had a mixture of Humber Hornets which fired the Malkara anti tank missile, Ferret Scout cars and later Ferrets with the new Swingfire missile. Members of the Sqn also had to be proficient infantry soldiers and had to train in everything from jungle to desert. It served in such diverse places as: Bahrain, Aden, Libya, Northern Ireland, Malaya, Kenya and Malta. It completed 9 active service tours and sadly lost two soldiers. The Sqn motto was "Go Anywhere, Do Anything, Willingly" and the demands placed upon the Sqn meant that they were never doing nothing.

Like 1st AB Recce before them, the RAC Sqn formed a strong bond between all ranks. This was largely due to the need to pass The Pre Parachute selection via the infamous (P Company) and in part because everyone was a volunteer. In 1967 a small group of the Sqn were tasked to attend the 1st AB Recce Old Comrades Association (OCA) meeting to demonstrate the modern equipment to the "Arnhem boys". This was the start of a close and enduring relationship and in 1977 the insignia of the 1st AB Recce was added to flag of the Para Sqn RAC and laid up with prayer in All Saints Church. In 2018 it was decided to update the memorial and prepare for receipt of the Standard of 1st AB Recce on the death of the final Arnhem veteran (three left at present). The work was completed in 2022 and a service of rededication will be held in All Saints Church.

Like 1st AB Recce before them, the RAC Sqn formed a strong bond between all ranks. This was largely due to the need to pass The Pre Parachute selection via the infamous (P Company) and in part because everyone was a volunteer. In 1967 a small group of the Sqn were tasked to attend the 1st AB Recce Old Comrades Association (OCA) meeting to demonstrate the modern equipment to the "Arnhem boys". This was the start of a close and enduring relationship and in 1977 the insignia of the 1st AB Recce was added to flag of the Para Sqn RAC and laid up with prayer in All Saints Church. In 2018 it was decided to update the memorial and prepare for receipt of the Standard of 1st AB Recce on the death of the final Arnhem veteran (three left at present). The work was completed in 2022 and a service of rededication will be held in All Saints Church.

Residents of Ruskington and ex Airborne veterans are invited to attend the service at 11am on Saturday the 10th of June. For more information contact David Simpson rusem20@gmail.com

TOP SECRET



1ST AIRBORNE
RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON
HISTORY WEEKEND

10TH & 11TH JUNE 2023

DURING 1944 RUSKINGTON & THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES
WAS HOME TO THE 1st AIRBORNE "RECCE" SQUADRON.
IN SEPTEMBER 1944 THEY WOULD LAND IN HOLLAND TO
TAKE PART IN THE BATTLE OF ARNHEM.

OVER THE WEEKEND SPECIAL EVENTS & TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE
TO REMEMBER THE "RECCE LADS" WHO CALLED RUSKINGTON HOME.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE JEEPS, WEAPONS & EQUIPMENT USED BY
THE SQUADRON DURING WORLD WAR TWO.

FREE ADMISSION
PARKFIELD RD PLAYING FIELDS
RUSKINGTON

TIMES TBC-CHECK FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES

Rural Households Survey on the Cost of Living



Do you live in a rural area and are you feeling the pinch?

The Rural Services Network and the Rural Issues Group of Citizens Advice are jointly running a survey to understand more about rural household budgets at, what is, a very difficult time for many.

Research commissioned by the RSN last year shows rural areas are suffering more acutely from the rise in the cost of living. Results from the survey will help us to engage more effectively with Government Departments, MPs and other policy makers.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Rural_Households_Cost-of-Living



Scan the QR code to
access the survey
and tell us your views

The survey closes on 31 March 2023

THE POWER of ADVERTISING

Signpost is a popular village magazine. There are up to 1000 copies printed and distributed around Ruskington every 3 months. To help cover the cost of this publication, we allow local businesses to advertise within the magazine for a small fee.

Unfortunately, every year less and less businesses are wanting to advertise and with the cost of printing forever increasing, the future of Signpost is at risk.

If you would like to advertise or make a donation towards the costs of the magazine, please contact Scott at admin@ruskingtonpc.org.uk or call 01526 834483.





The Arts Society Holland & Kesteven

You don't need to be able to paint to appreciate art or music, sculpture, glass, ceramics, textiles and much more.

International organisation The Arts Society has local branches throughout the world and The Arts Society Holland & Kesteven, one of only five venues in Lincolnshire and based in Great Hale, couldn't be more social.

Meetings and lectures at Great Hale Village Hall bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts, and the society is a welcoming place to hear expert lectures, supported by appropriate audio-visual facilities, sharing their knowledge on the arts.

The main part of the focus of our society is a programme of lectures each lasting about an hour and exploring many facets of art and design and a wide variety of interests.

For the second half of our 22-23 season, we shall be exploring the following:

- ◆ 9th February - Music in Art.
- ◆ 9th March - Isabella d'Este, Collector and Patron of Art.
- ◆ 13th April - Zaha Hadid – architectural superstar.
- ◆ 11th May - The Bible as a cultural artefact.

We are proud of the variety of subjects in our programme, and we also offer special interest study days and outings to expand our knowledge of the arts.

If you have an interest in the arts why not join us on the second Thursday of the month at 2pm. You can be sure of a warm welcome, excellent lectures followed by tea.

For further information, please contact Kate Pike on 01949 843386.



**TIRED OF
POTHOLE
FLY-TIPPING
LOOSE PAVING
DOG POOP VANDALISM
BROKEN STREET LIGHTING?**

**REPORT THEM TO
THE COUNCIL WITH
 **FixMyStreet.com****

another project from the lovely people at **mySociety**



SLEAFORD RURAL Neighbourhood Policing



YOUR LOCAL TEAM

sleaford@lincs.police.uk



PC Chris Green



PCSO Nicole Woolerton



PCSO Colin Ironmonger

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Rural ASB – The team have stepped up their patrols of hotspot ASB areas during the evenings and weekends. We continue to engage with groups of youths and disperse them where necessary.

Drugs – The team have been out and about building an intelligence picture of those concerned in drug misuse and supply. We will continue to develop intelligence and act upon the information accordingly. If you have information regarding either of these issues, please report it via **101** or Online @www.lincs.police.uk/onlinereporting

LOCAL PRIORITY

Every three months, we listen to your concerns and look at recent crime statistics to shape the things we will concentrate on for the next three months. A Poll was created using Nextdoor with residents voting on priority focus. The results have set our priorities for the next quarter, these are:

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR & DRUGS

If you think there is an issue we should be focusing on, please get in touch at one of our public engagement events or contact us by email or social media.

WANT TO KNOW MORE

Crime statistics for your neighbourhood are available at www.lincs.police.uk



Find us on

Facebook

Search: Sleaford Police

Follow us on Twitter



Search: @SleafordPolice



Nextdoor is a great way of getting the latest relevant information for your area.
Join at: www.nextdoor.co.uk



SLEAFORD RURAL Neighbourhood Policing



A Message on PCSO Numbers from NPT Sgt Mumby-Croft: You may have seen media coverage of the news that Lincolnshire may have to almost half its numbers of PCSO's. There is no doubt that policing in your local communities would be impacted. Despite debate about the worth of the role I can only offer you my personal view, which is that the presence of PCSO's has saved what remains of community policing. For many of you they are all that remains of visible policing of "the beat" as diminishing numbers of response officers deal with inbound emergency calls for service. They visit our most vulnerable victims of fraud, patrol areas suffering ASB, run our community engagements, provide the intelligence which informs our ability to tackle drugs and criminality, and are a vast resource of knowledge on every offender and issue locally. It is impossible in their absence that our service to you at Neighbourhood level will not be impacted. We run a small but dedicated team here at Sleaford trying to keep the local community safe. That effort will not be lessened. I ask those however who might pose the question "well what do they do?" to instead consider what will be lost. A visible presence when many fear that is becoming rare, a wealth of local knowledge, total commitment to their community and a vital resource which props up policing in your local area will be the loss. Please if you see our PCSO's out and about, remember that they are continuing to serve their local communities despite extremely difficult circumstances at present, and thank them for being there, because I suspect we will all miss them if they are gone.



WANT TO KNOW MORE

Crime statistics for your neighbourhood are available at www.lincs.police.uk

Find us on
Facebook

Search: **Sleaford Police**

Follow us on Twitter



Search: **@SleafordPolice**

 **Nextdoor**

Nextdoor is a great way of getting the latest relevant information for your area.

Join at: www.nextdoor.co.uk

Ruskington Parish Council Cemetery News

Cemetery Regulations

Please be aware that following a thorough review, Council approved the cemetery regulations without amendment at its meeting in October 2022. This followed advice from the Institute of Cemetery and Crematoria Management and the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils on the placement of non-regulation items in the cemetery and their removal.

Please note that only floral tributes are allowed. These can be placed on the headstone, grave or ashes plot but not around, beside, or in front of the grave/plot, and nothing can be planted.

Council understands that this is a very emotive issue and families may like to place tributes to their loved ones in the cemetery. However, the regulations are in place to ensure the health and safety of visitors to the cemetery, contractors and council staff; to provide safe access to other graves and plots; to allow maintenance work to be undertaken; and to ensure the cemetery is a restful and pleasant place for all to visit and reflect in peace.

Removal of Christmas wreaths, decayed flowers & non-regulation items

Annually, from the 31st January, Council removes Christmas wreaths and throughout the year will remove dead and decayed flowers and any dangerous items such as glass. Council has the right to remove any non-regulation items but does try to inform the person holding the Exclusive Grant of Burial for the plot/grave in advance, so the items can be retrieved.

Ashes Scattering Area - An area for scattering ashes is being created on the south border. There will be no cost to scatter ashes in this location, and although no memorial items may be left, residents will be able to purchase a plaque from the Council for engraving and displaying. Further information on this will follow.

Memorial Headstones - With immediate effect, only flat or sloping "tablet" headstones will be permitted on ashes plots to complement the size of the plots. These tablets can be created to incorporate flower vases, and your chosen stone mason will be able to advise you on this.

Further information - If you have any questions about the cemetery, interments or the regulations, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk on 01526 834484 or clerk@ruskingtonpc.org.uk.





"Your Parish Council Needs YOU"

With local council elections taking place on 4th May 2023, have you thought about becoming a councillor on Ruskington Parish Council?

Why become a councillor? Being a parish councillor is all about giving back to your community by bringing your energy, passion, and hard-working attitude. You can make a real difference to the local community and wider society in many ways as a councillor. For example, you could be representing the views of local people to ensure the community gets the right services, supporting a resident with an issue, or helping to shape the community by driving new ideas.

Being a parish councillor is a varied and highly fulfilling role. You don't need any experience or special qualifications, and you'll gain lots of new skills, experience, knowledge, and confidence.

What do councillors do? Parish councils are made up of councillors who are or co-opted or elected by the public in local elections. Councillors work with local people and partners, such as community groups, businesses and other organisations, to agree and deliver on local priorities. The decisions are implemented by permanent parish council officers and staff, who deliver services on a daily basis.

Who can be a councillor? To stand for election/co-option on a parish council, you must:

- British or a citizen of the Commonwealth. You may also be eligible as a citizen of the European Union, however the criteria has changed now that the UK has left the European Union. Please check on the gov.uk website for advice about EU citizens' voting and candidacy rights in local elections.
- At least 18 years old.
- Registered to vote in the area or have lived, worked, or owned property there for at least 12 months before an election.

Do I need any skills, experience or special qualifications? No skills or qualifications are required to be a councillor - just a passion to make our community the best it can be.

Will I get paid? Councillors are not paid a salary, but they are entitled to receive expenses. This ensures they are not left out of pocket by covering costs such as travel to and from training, etc.

Further information.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a parish councillor, please come and observe one of our meetings, talk to a councillor or the Clerk, and look out for the NKDC and RPC social media channels and websites regarding the upcoming election process and timings.

Email: clerk@ruskingtonpc.org.uk



Ruskington Chestnut Street

Church of England Primary School
and Little Conkers Pre-School

I hope this finds you as well as can be expected. We had a joyful and fun filled end to the first term as we broke up for Christmas - we had our Christingle service in All Saints Church with pupils and families, we took the children to watch the Rapunzel pantomime in Lincoln and we welcomed our families into school for the Early years and KS1 performances. We have so much to look forward to this term with a variety of events such as trips field-work trips to the Brayford Pool in Lincoln and a history visit to Boston.



On the first day of December, many children, parents and friends of the school met at All Saints Church to celebrate Christingle. During the day the children got to work making their Christingle oranges which they brought with them to church. The service was led, for their first outing this year, by the Collective Worship Council who, despite some being in younger year groups, spoke confidently in front of the congregation. A rousing rendition of the Christingle Song and Shine Jesus Shine was complemented by a quieter Away in a Manager whilst the Christingle candles were lit. Thank you for your donations of Christingle oranges and monetary donation which will go to the Children's Society.

FOOTBALL COUNTY FINALS



Our school football team played through two rounds of competition to finish as the regional small schools' champions which meant they went on to play in the County Finals. The team demonstrated teamwork, fairness, respect, and perseverance every step of the way finishing seventh overall, which as the first time progressing to the overall finals is a huge achievement in itself. The team are still currently top of the league table in the Sleaford and district group and have two games to play before Easter.



Ruskington Chestnut Street

Church of England Primary School
and Little Conkers Pre-School



NETBALL SUCCESS Our Chestnut Street netball team have been playing very well. We went to a county qualifier at Billingham and played matches against Winchelsea and Church Lane which ended up with us winning our mini league. From this, we move onto the next round of qualifiers to see which team goes through to the county finals. Currently, within our Sleaford league, we have played 2 matches and won both.



SYCAMORE CLASS MEET AN AUTHOR

Sycamore class had an exciting morning meeting an author, via zoom. Lucy Noguera has just finished her new book 'Herman needs a home'

which she read to the class the children then had an opportunity to ask Lucy some questions. Reception Oak class were super excited to take home their copy of 'We're Going to Find the Monster'.

PANATHLON CHAMPIONS Four amazing athletes went to Nocton Leisure Centre to experience Panathlon, an event to try a range of inclusive sports, they had a great time - coming back with gold medals and the first-place trophy!



Congratulations to Freddie who has been awarded a Rotary Star to recognise his act of good citizenship. Bill from the Rotary Club came to school to present Freddie with his certificate and badge and we were pleased to have his parents at the assembly. Freddie was in a cross-country race representing the school, he saw another runner from a different school fall over and decided to stop to help them, see they were ok and get them back on their feet - a true 'Good Samaritan'.





Ruskington Chestnut Street

Church of England Primary School
and Little Conkers Pre-School

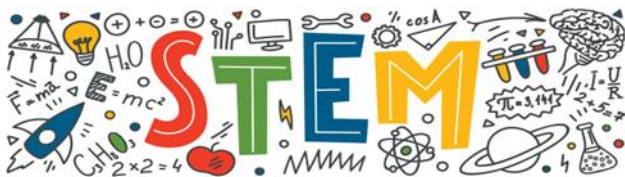
ROYAL INSTITUTE MATHS MASTERCLASS

Our children have thoroughly enjoyed activities, investigations and games that develop their mathematical reasoning, in the autumn term year 5 spent a session investigating our universe through maths. They learnt some amazing facts about the distance the planets are away from the sun. At the start of the spring term, they have investigated geometric patterns through Islamic art.



HISTORY VISIT TO BOMBER COMMAND

Willow and Hawthorn had a great trip to the International Bomber Command Centre. The children worked as a team to navigate a Lancaster Bomber and enjoyed the hands-on experiences looking at artefacts used during the wars and stepping inside an Anderson Shelter.



Science Technology Engineering Mathematics

Our Year 6 took part in a STEM day along with other Trust schools. On this occasion the focus was on Science and Engineering. We were joined by pupils from Morton and Browns Primary Schools. We started our day visiting St George's Academy and met with Mr Mitchell, a Design Technology teacher, and some students who introduced us to the school 'Greenpower' Team. Greenpower is a pro-



Ruskington Chestnut Street

Church of England Primary School
and Little Conkers Pre-School



ject which supports schools to develop bespoke cars using a battery and engine. It was great to see some past Chestnut Street pupils who are now part of the team. The team build and race three cars in nationwide competitions. The children were amazed to see one of the students drive the car on the St George's playground. Back at Chestnut Street the children built their own mini battery powered cars, designed a team flag and the car livery. Working in teams the children rose to the challenge impressing all the staff with their engineering skills. To finish the day the children took part in a 'Grand Prix' style race to find a winner. It is great to see the children enjoying these kinds of events designed to raise their awareness of STEM.

YEAR 1 TO CHESTNUT CARE HOME

Year 1 had a lovely trip to Chestnuts Care Home. They enjoyed making heart shaped sun catchers together with the residents. There was a great buzz with nonstop chat and laughter. We even sung Happy Birthday to one of the residents before we left. The children are really looking forward to our next visit.

We enjoyed taking part in Mental Health week accessing the challenges from Task-



master such as designing a playground game with only one piece of equipment and 3 rules, we also connected with the outdoors creating self-portraits with natural materials, the children did a wonderful job!

Oak class made a few changes to their reading space outside. Oak class wanted a bigger space where they could read, draw and spend time to-

gether relaxing, they shared a story in our 'quiet area' in the sunshine.



Ruskington Chestnut Street

Church of England Primary School
and Little Conkers Pre-School

YEAR 3 & THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

We are very lucky to be having a live link with the Royal Opera House, so far the children have watched the ballet dancers rehearse for Romeo and Juliet and then asked questions and shared ideas. More recently the class have created their own style of dance based on the story of Romeo and Juliet, during their PE lessons. On the 29th March, as a class we will perform their dance and film their musical creation to share with the Royal Opera House. Over the term through dance in PE the children will learn key skills to put together a dance ready for our online invitation to the Capulet Ball, with the Royal Opera House. This is such an amazing opportunity, and we look forward to taking part.



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

To keep up to date with the exciting things we do at Chestnut Street please see the school website and our social media pages (Facebook and Twitter)



Chestnut Street
@ChestnutRusk



Multiply

Nature By Numbers

A fun, social course is a chance to boost your confidence in maths whilst getting out in the fresh air and exploring nature.

Including a leisurely walk along the River Slea, observing the wildlife and keeping a record of the birds, mammals and plants seen.

For further information, please contact us on:
multiply@voluntarycentreseives.org.uk or call 01529 308450



Funded by Multiply in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council

LITTLE CONKERS PRE-SCHOOL



From our youngest to our oldest children, learning to use tools – their progress over the year is truly impressive!



All aboard! We're off on another adventure – hold on tight everyone!



Rhythm and rhyme group time – tick tick tick goes the clock...

Keep up to date with our adventures on Facebook

Tel: 01526 832424 Email: enquiries@chestnutstreet.laat.co.uk

Stunning snowdrops, followed by the promise of daffodils got us excited for all the Spring planting that will be well under way by the time you read this, with potatoes set and more veg and fruit to follow!



RUSKINGTON CHESTNUT STREET C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Mini Conkers Parent & Toddler Group

Everyone is welcome to join us for stay and play sessions.
From Birth to 4 years.

Every Wednesday
1.30pm - 2.30pm.

Booking essential, please contact
01526 832424 or
enquiries@chestnutstreet.laot.co.uk

Care. Believe. Grow.

If you've a little one, why not come along – we'd love to see you at our Parent and Toddler Group!



Whether it's Bouncing Teddies, Old MacDonalld or Down in the Jungle, our group song time at the end is always joyful and fun!





Winchelsea...what a start to 2023!

2023 has started well after the excitement of all the Christmas activities that took place in school since I last wrote to you all. All 230 Winchelsea pupils took to the stage over the course of a week with three different plays being performed to parents. We also had a fantastic trip to the pantomime at Newark which was enjoyed by the whole school! We are extremely grateful to all who supported our Christmas raffle – either buying tickets or providing some great prizes. We had wonderful support from local businesses and parents who donated some wonderful items ranging from vouchers to be used in our neighbourhood shops to items of confectionary or pamper products to make some beautiful hampers. As a result, we raised £457.45 which will be used in school to help subsidise the ever-growing cost of class trips which we know the children love and which we value as a part of our excellent curriculum provision. We thank our super PTA for organising the raffle and for giving up their time to talk to local businesses and to sell raffle tickets at our performances.

Once again, I thought I would share some photos that show some of the great activities that have been going on in school.



Sporting successes - Sport at Winchelsea continues to go from strength to strength and we continue to provide opportunities and experiences for children to encounter a range of different sports. Children of every age get the chance to take part in some great events – some quite unusual –and this term has included archery, athletics and rugby.

Our football team is doing fantastically well with two wins to start the year and, as well as the league fixtures, the children are enjoying meeting other schools in friendly matches. We have a mixed team but have also recently set up a dedicated girls' football team inspired by the success of our England ladies, and we are seeing their talents and confidence blossoming.

Community partnerships - At Winchelsea we are proud of our community partnerships which are extensive and include the local churches, charities, village library, local businesses such as the Co-op and this year we are working even more closely with Sleaford Rotary club. They have already supported our families with their Coats4kids scheme, enabling children to have a warm coat for the winter and



Winchelsea Primary School

All Individuals Matter

we have also developed some great ideas for supporting and improving the village of Ruskington, Last term our gardening club went out with them to plant daffodils and crocuses along the side of the beck along the High Street and we are excited to see them starting to come through as Spring approaches. We are also planning to work with them on some litter picking expeditions and hope that everyone in the village will see and appreciate our work.



Design and Technology - We have been doing some great new projects around DT and the children are developing some excellent skills in this subject – from cutting and sticking in our Early Years to cookery and sewing textiles in Year 6. Across school I have sampled pizzas, smoothies, cakes and sandwiches in cookery lessons and been amazed by models of rockets, castles and Roman jewellery. The design and making of waistcoats by Year 6 was a test in determination and perseverance from everyone involved – including the staff- but the results were superb!

School Council Projects - Our school council continue to do some great work in school and have been learning a lot about how councillors and MPs have a role in our community. The school council visited the Guildhall in Lincoln where they learnt about the work that goes on there and found out a lot about local history by looking at some superb artefacts. They even were able to look at some of the robes worn by some of the key officials. Perhaps one of our pupils could be the future mayor one day!

The children know how important it is that they represent their classes and gather their views and opinions to make a difference to how our school operates just as councillors and MPs should. We have some exciting plans for continuing to develop our school grounds and the children have played a





Winchelsea Primary School

All Individuals Matter

full part in providing the views of their classmates, suggesting ideas for design plans and sharing their thoughts and ideas about what they would like to see. The



children have been keen to create a quiet area that can be used as a place of calm and relaxation – what we are calling our 'Zen courtyard'. With mood lighting, wind chimes, water jets, aromatic planters, a fountain and some 'relaxation-friendly' seating the design has now been passed to a specialist company and preparations are underway for the design to be put into ac-

tion – I think I might enjoy spending time there too when it's finished!

The children have also suggested that a 'fitness trail' would be a great asset to our school grounds and so we have recently had some work completed to prepare a pathway through our wooded area where we will be having some fitness equipment installed very soon which the children have selected and will enjoy using to build their stamina and skills.

What a lot of exciting developments!

To see more of what we do, please follow me on Twitter Helen Duckett [@Winchelsea1](https://twitter.com/Winchelsea1) where you will see photographs and updates on a daily basis and won't have to wait for the next edition of the Signpost Magazine!

We are, naturally, very proud of our school and know it stems from the great teamwork that we have at Winchelsea – staff, pupils, parents, governors and the community are all valuable to the success of our school. Winchelsea school always rises to whatever challenges we need to face and will always endeavour to do our best for everyone we work with. We have been oversubscribed for six consecutive years now so if you know of friends who are intending to register their children at Winchelsea in the future or you have little ones of your own it may be advisable to talk to us soon! We continue to invite anyone who is looking for a new school for their children to give us a call. I believe that if you visit Winchelsea School, you will be impressed by the friendly atmosphere and caring nature of all who work here but also by the pupils' enthusiasm for learning that makes our school special. We are committed to offering our children the best education that we can. If you would like to see more of what is going on in our school, please visit our website at www.winchelsea.lincs.sch.uk/. Please contact the school office on 01526 832060 if you would like to visit.

In the meantime, I hope you and your loved ones all stay safe and well.

Helen Duckett

Automated External Defibrillators (AED)



Ruskington has public access AEDs at the following locations:

- ⇒ The Winchelsea Centre, 11 High Street North, NG34 9DY
- ⇒ The Co-op, High Street North, NG34 9DY
- ⇒ The Village Hall , Parkfield Road, NG34 9HT
- ⇒ Ruskington Medical Centre, 6 Brookside Close, NG34 9GQ
- ⇒ Station Road, opposite bottom of the railway bridge, NG34 9BZ

These are free to use by the members of the public. Upon calling the emergency services, they will be able to instruct you on where to go and how to access the defibrillator, if needed. But its always good to have a mental note of where the nearest one is located.

Hospital Voluntary Car Service (HVCS)

The service provides a reliable door-to-door journey and is available to all residents of Ruskington and Dorrington who have no other viable or practical means of attending a medical or dental appointment.

It is available for journeys to locations within the county although this can be extended to Nottinghamshire, Cambridgeshire and Derbyshire if required. It is charged at 45p per mile (Measured from the centre of Ruskington.)

For further details contact: Lyn Gardner 01526 833630

If you have a car and a few hours to spare why not become a volunteer driver. You are paid 45p per mile – tax free!



Useful Information

Personal

Age UK Lincoln and Kesteven	01522 696000
Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 9177650
Citizens Advice	03444 111444
Child Line	0800 1111
Drugs Helpline	0300 1236600
Parent Line Plus	0808 8002222
Relate	0300 1001234
Samaritans	116 123

Services

Anglian Water	0345 7919155
British Gas	0800 0480202
Floodline	0345 9881188

Medical Services

NHS Service	111
Ruskington Medical Practice	01526 832204
Lincoln County Hospital	01522 512512
Boston Pilgrim Hospital	01205 364801
Grantham & District Hospital	01476 565232

Local Police

Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
Lincolnshire Police	101

Local Authorities

North Kesteven District Council	01529 414155
---------------------------------	--------------

Local Government

Clr R A Wright District and County Councillor (Ruskington Ward)	01526 834994
Caroline Johnson MP for Sleaford & North Hykeham	0207 219 5381

Parish Council Members

Clr O Ditch (Chair)	cllr ditch@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr S V Tonge (Vice-Chair)	cllr tonge@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr S Cotter	cllr cotter@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr P D Cunningham MBE	cllr cunningham@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr L Tomlinson	cllr tomlinson@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr M G Trolley	cllr trolley@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr G Cox	cllr cox@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr A E Jennings	cllr aejennings@ruskingtonpc.org.uk
Clr Jennings	cllr jennings@ruskingtonpc.org.uk

Parish Council Staff

Office contact details	clerk@ruskingtonpc.org.uk 01526 834483
Mrs Kathryn Locke	Clerk
Miss Kirsty Sinclair	Deputy Clerk and RFO
Mr Andrew Doughty	Village Caretaker
Mr Scott Johnstone	Administration Assistant

RUSKINGTON
**FAMILY
FUN DAY**
PARKFIELD PLAYING FIELD

**FREE
ENTRY**

- > TUG-O-WAR
- > SAUSAGE SLINGING
- > DOG SHOW
- > ROYAL FANCY DRESS
- > BAKE OFF
- > BEAT THE KEEPER
- > CHILDRENS RACES
- > LIONS JFC INVITATIONAL CUP

SUNDAY
7TH MAY
11AM - 4PM

**LOCAL CLUBS &
ORGANISATIONS**

FOOD STALLS * BAR * ICE CREAM VAN

- RUSKINGTONFAMILYFUNDAY@GMAIL.COM
- FIND US ON FACEBOOK