

RUISHTON VILLAGE HALL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2015

The **VILLAGE HALL MONTHLY DRAW** tickets are renewable by **1st December 2014** at a cost of **£5.00** yearly. All existing ticket holders will be invited to renew, anyone else wishing to purchase a ticket (there are always a few spares) should contact Norma Hemburrow on 442040

VILLAGE HALL MONTHLY DRAW OCTOBER

£25 No 87 Mrs P Cockram 8 The Grove

£10 No 13 Mr J Lloyd 22 Newlands Grove

£5 No 120 Mrs L Hooper 31 Woodlands Drive

The November BINGO will be on **Wednesday 11th**. Doors open at 7pm and its **EYES DOWN** at 7.30pm. The **SNOWBALL** is now £60. Just right for Christmas!

The November WHIST DRIVE will be on **Wednesday 25th**. Doors open at 7pm and play commences at 7.30pm.

There is a QUIZ in the Village Hall in aid of Ruishton Church on Friday October 30th at 7.30pm tables of 4, £5 a head to include soft drinks and nibbles, coffee and tea. (Under 16s can accompany adults free and won't count towards the group of 4). If you are able to come but don't have a foursome there are usually some spare people to help make up a team. Mike Marshall will once again be our quiz master for the evening.

The next **JUMBLE SALE and AUCTION** is in aid of Ruishton and Thornfalcon Churches and will be on **Saturday 14th November at 12 noon**. Items can be collected by ringing Norma on 442040 or Liz on 443369 or bring to the Village Hall on Saturday morning before 10am.

A Big Thank You to all those that attended the **Mercy Ship Breakfast**. We raised a fantastic £ 301.42 for this great charity and had a wonderful morning with lots of people coming to enjoy a breakfast and a browse of the stalls. It was lovely to see so many from the community come out and support this cause creating a lovely atmosphere. We hope to see you again in the new year. Donna Nicolls

The **November Health Walks**. There will be 2 walks in November– **Wednesday** November 4th at 10.30 from Creech Canal car park and on November 18th starting at 10.30 am from Ruishton Village hall car park. Walks are up to 1.5 hours in duration. Dogs are welcome but must be kept on leads. For more information please ring Pat Pike on 442609 or Andy Smith on 444815 .

Flower Show AGM The committee would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's show such a success – the helpers, the advertisers & sponsors, the judges, and of course all those who entered the show. If you are interested in the Flower Show, please come along to the AGM. This will be held at the Village Hall Meeting Room on **Tuesday 17th November at 7:15pm**. Everyone welcome.

RUISHTON CARPET BOWLS CLUB NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

We meet at **Ruishton Village Hall every Tuesday Evening from 7pm & 9pm and Friday Afternoon between 2pm & 4pm**. You can come along, and have a trial play as a guest for a small fee of £2 for each session, for up to 4 weeks, after which time an annual membership fee of £6 will be required, which also entitles you to a smaller fee of £1.50 per session. Come along, and give it a try, we are a friendly social group who will make you welcome. For further information phone Mavis Skeggs 442427 (Treasurer) or Derek Garrett 442876 (Chairman) .

Ruishton School are holding their Christmas Fayre in the school hall on Friday November 27th from 5.30pm to 8.00pm.

For all bookings and enquiries regarding the Village Hall, please contact Chris on 07958574905

ALL ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER 2015 newsletter should be delivered to the Editor, Liz Harper, Marl Bank, Bushy Cross Lane, Ruishton (443369) NO LATER THAN Monday 16th November 2015, or e-mail ruishton_magazine@hotmail.com

LADIES COFFEE CLUB We meet this month on **Monday 9 th November at 2.30pm** at Vera's house. Sally McEwen 442733.

RATS (Ruishton Artists in TexStyles) We are a group of craft enthusiasts who work with fabric and thread. We are now meeting on the 3rd Mon of each month 10.00a.m. - 3.00p.m. in the VH committee room. For more information about our regular meetings ring Rosemary (442039).

TAUNTON & DISTRICT FRIENDSHIP CLUB We are a club offering a wide range of social activities for the over 50s. Next meeting **Thursday 19th November**. For further information contact Sally (442733).

RUISHTON BOOK CLUB Rosie's Project was a big hit with the book club. We all enjoyed it and are looking forward to a very different read for November - The Lost Symbol by Dan Brown. Old friends and new members joined us this month and we are able to welcome more if you would like to join. Our next meeting is Wednesday 11 November at 10.30.

For more information or to borrow a copy of The Lost Symbol contact Viv Streeter on 443103.

Taunton Amateur Country Winemakers Circle meet in the committee room at the Village Hall on the 2nd Tuesday. For further information please contact Peter on 251110 or Jean on 256265.

Ruishton Coffee Stop meets every Tuesdays between 9.45 and 11.15 in the Church meeting room, come along and join us for 10 minutes or 90 minutes all are welcome. Phone Liz 443369 if you want more details.

THE RUISHTON INN Tel:442285

Meals served 12.00-1.45

(not Monday)

Evenings 6.00-9.00

(7-9 Sundays)

Next auction Thursday
19th November at 6.30pm



Quiz Night every Wednesday at 9.00

Free entry

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Crech St Michael gardening club

18th November "Organic Veg. Growing" held at
CStM Primary School.

Meet 7.15p.m. Further Information from Terry
(442661) or Paul (01823-443757)

The Policing team that cover the Ruishton area
are as follows:

PS 2631 - Huw Jenkins - 07889 657890

PC 1146 - Maria Jennings - 07889 658000

PCSO 8784 - Lynsey Gamblin - 07889 655212

PCSO 9981 - Steve Chapman - 07889 655196

If it is an emergency and you need an immediate
response please telephone 999. If you wish to report
a crime or for any non emergency calls please tele-
phone 101. Please do not report crimes on officers'
mobile phones.

RUISHTON GUIDING

If you wish to put your daughter's name on any of the wait-
ing lists please contact: Guides Cath Ellis (442398),
Brownies Cathy Jones (443160), Rainbows Cath Ellis
(442398)

Taunton Mobile Library calls at Dinhams
Farm Corner once every 4 weeks from **9.15
to 9.25**. Next visits **Wednesday November
11th and December 9th**




Items for sale or one off adverts 50p a line

Small Business based at Thornfalcon (near Creech St Michael/Ruishton) seeks computer administrator help. 10- 20 hours per week times of which can be flexible. Internet based business so some possibility to work from home.

Please email classicmopedspares@hotmail.co.uk or phone Malcolm on 07810 870 077

In stitches @ St Georges now meets on the 2nd Friday monthly, from 10 – 12 noon in the Ruishton Church Meeting Room, so if you enjoy knitting or crotchet or would like to learn how, why not come along and join us. We have several ideas for future projects and all ideas are welcome. Muriel Coles (443019). Next meeting Friday 13th November.

Maths Tuition

 Need some help with your GCSE or AS/A Maths. Reasonable rates (first lesson free)
 Ring Liz on
 01823 443369 or email lizmaths@hotmail.com

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RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

CASUAL VACANCIES

The Parish Council still has three vacancies on the Council. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please contact the Heather Bryant by phone 01460 234770 or e-mail ruishtonpc@gmail.com for more information, or speak to a current Councillor.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At the October Parish Council meeting, Anne Rhodes from Taunton Deane Borough Council gave an outline on the process of Neighbourhood Plans.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a Community Led Policy document. A relevant body (in our case Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parish Council) is responsible for making sure that the plan is sound including having appropriate detailed evidence base, relevant inclusive consultation and being in conformity with Local Planning Policy and Regulations. It is important to note that a Neighbourhood Plan cannot contradict Local Planning Policy but can recommend more development or provide a further level of detail to it such as the design of the development and the look of the development.

Although this parish has no allocations in the Local Plan, Taunton Deane Borough Council will be putting in a plan next year to place a major employment development site next to J25 of the M5 which will be partly in Henlade and partly in Stoke St Mary parish. Currently there is scope for small scale development within the development boundaries but this could change as the current Local Plan is reviewed by TDBC every five years and the next review is due by 2017.

The Parish Council, at this stage, is provisionally looking into producing a Neighbourhood Plan possibly jointly with Stoke St Mary parish. However, the Council is mindful that producing a Neighbourhood Plan requires a significant amount of time (average 2 years) expertise (technical and administrative) and can be expensive depending on the scope and complexity of the plan. This will require a major input from resident volunteers to be involved. The Council would like to ask if you would be willing to be a member of a Steering Committee in the first instance – we do need a number of residents to put themselves forward to share the workload. For more information about Neighbourhood Planning for Ruishton & Thornfalcon, please look on the website at the address below. Two information documents are on the web site that Ann Rhodes referred to at the Parish Council meeting. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Clerk on the email address or phone no. below.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

- Newlands Estate pavements – County Highways has stated that this is an ongoing programme of doing a bit each year due to budget problems.
- C. C. Ross Henley has reported the issue of weeds growing through the pavements in the Woodlands area of the village. Unfortunately County does not have a budget for clearing weeds on pavements. They will come out and lop the tops of the weeds but nothing more.
- Each year County Councillors has the opportunity to submit two Small Improvements Schemes (SIS) and C.C. Ross Henley has agreed to put forward a scheme which will help to improve the safety of pedestrians walking along Ruishton Lane where there are no pavements. It is not certain at this stage what the scheme will entail and each scheme will be in competition with other County Councillor 'bids' in Somerset. The criteria for a scheme value for money, strategic objectives are delivered whilst also enhancing safety.
- C. C. Ross Henley and SCC Chief Executive visited the Park and Ride. It was noted the lack of facilities and the shabby state of the site. However, the CE stated that the weeds would be cleared.
- Hedge at Cheats Corner/Lipe Lane. The Council has received correspondence that confirms the hedge is the responsibility of Somerset Highways which has been forwarded on to Somerset Highways. Hopefully now the hedge will be cut back to make this junction less dangerous.

DATE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2015/16

4.11.15 2.12.15 6.1.16 5.2.16 5.3.16 2.4.15 7.5.16

Council Meetings commence at 7.30pm (unless otherwise stated) and are held in Ruishton Village Hall. There is an opportunity at 7.30pm for the public to make comments or ask questions. A full set of minutes can be seen on our website at www.ruishton.org.uk.

Parish Clerk: Mrs Heather Bryant, Northay House, Northay, Chard. TA20 3DN. Tel: 01460 234770. Email: ruishtonpc@gmail.com

Ruishton and Henlade Flood Committee Update

Ruishton and Henlade Flood Committee has recently welcomed Andrew Lukes as our new Chairman and we are very pleased that Karen Goldstone is continuing as our Secretary. We are also pleased to welcome Ray Hancock to the Flood Committee as a representative from the Parish Council and would like to say a big 'thank you' to Robert Powell for all his hard work over the last few years. Since the formation of the committee, a number of improvements in and around Lower Henlade and Ruishton have been carried out in order to reduce flooding in our villages and also to minimise risk to life and property in the event of localised flooding. The installation of a storm pump at Barton Lane pumping station by Wessex Water, earlier this year, should help to reduce flooding in the centre of Ruishton. Other improvements have been as follows:-

Flood Action Plan - one of our first tasks was to draw up a Flood Action Plan for the villages – this can be viewed on the Ruishton website at <http://www.ruishton.org.uk/>. We have also produced a **Flood Emergency Plan** which has been issued to all the home-owners living within the potential flood areas.

Ruishton Flood Bank - by the beginning of February 2015, the Environment Agency had completed the improvements to the flood bank at the end of Church Lane, following consultations with and pressure from the residents. Huge boulders were brought in to re-inforce the bank, laid onto a high grade waterproof lining then topped with tonnes of clay and seeded with grass or covered with turves. The Blackbrook has been dug out and cleared of fallen trees and other debris. By late April, the EA had carried out further work to raise the flood bank at two other locations around the village – Orchard Bank and Pumping Station Bank. This September, EA representatives undertook an inspection of the flood bank and assured us that further maintenance checks will be carried out in April, June and October next year.

Operation Gannex – a significant development this year has been the inception of 'Operation Gannex' – a pilot road closure scheme which has evolved through our work with Inspector Tim Powell-Gill of Avon and Somerset Police. In both Lower Henlade and Ruishton, trained volunteers now have the authority to put out 'Road Closed' signs once they have established the need for action. These volunteers have access to road signs, sand bags and cones which they are authorised to put out when designated 'Trigger Points' are affected by rising flood-water. The signs will remain in place until the road is safe and through the night from 22.00 hrs until 07.00 hrs. At a local level, the operation will be coordinated by **Xanthe Lukes** who will also liaise with the police and the media. It will be possible to access the latest information on road closures via the **Operation Gannex Facebook page**.

Lower Henlade - by early February, Somerset County Council together with local landowners, had cleared ditches along the road through Lower Henlade and improved the road-side safety rails. However, more work still needs to be carried out to clear the culvert along Stoke Road. Members of the flood committee are making a request to SCC Highways to undertake this as part of their annual maintenance scheme. The committee is concerned about the possible impact on Lower Henlade of the increased surface water run-off and foul water discharge from the affordable housing scheme along Stoke Road.

Sue Sherry

Ruishton Community Projects Group

Originally set up to raise funds to help towards the cost of replacing the fence around the toddlers play area The Ruishton Community Projects group is made up of local people who want to support the community and make a positive difference. Their aims are to support the community of the parish of Ruishton, Henlade and Thornfalcon by:

- Involving local people in community activities
- Promoting community events and participation
- Supporting local organisations
- Raising funds through community events to finance community projects

Please could you spend the time to complete this questionnaire and return it to any of the addresses on the reverse of the page by Saturday November 14th.

Tick Box

1. Do you think the parish would benefit from having a Community group? Yes No

2. What community activities would be of benefit to the parish?

3. What are your interests?

4. Would you:- Yes No

- attend events in the parish that interests you?

- volunteer to help with events that interest you? Yes No

- volunteer to help with events outside scope of interests? Yes No

If Yes please give name and contact Number overleaf

5. Do you belong to a group that would benefit from support?

Please give group's name _ _ _ _ _

6. Do you have any ideas for projects that would benefit the Community? **If Yes please give details overleaf** Yes No

7. Would you prefer information available online or by newsletter

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.