

February
2013



THE STAR



337



A monthly round-up of
news and views from our three villages

The STAR is delivered FREE to more
than 1,000 homes each month.

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Guides: Lorna Cook, 01777 816513
(after 6.00 p.m.)

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Methodist Church:

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Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9.30 - 3.00

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Mothers Union, Scrooby:

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Bawtry Amateur Dramatic Society:

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Scrooby Village Hall:

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Bassetlaw Cardiac Support Group:

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W.R.V.S. Afternoon Fellowship Club:

Carol Head, 01777 705077

Ranskill Post Office (Top Shop):

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Mattersey (with Ranskill)

After School Club:

Ring or text: 07786 088840

or Email: jpacld@yahoo.co.uk

Ranskill Bowls Club:

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Ranskill Investment Club:

David Smith, 01777 818400

Ranskill Nursery Pre-school:

Carol Freeman, 01777 816066

Little Owls Toddler Group:

Carol Freeman, 01777 816066

Ranskill Primary School,

Head Teacher, Mrs. H. Leone,

01777 818468

Ranskill Reading Room:

Peter Parkin, 01777 818852

Ranskill & Torworth W.I:

Pat Blatchford, 01777 818519

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Barry Bown, 01777 816325

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David McAra, 01777

816864

Scrooby Parish Council:

Sheila Firth, 01302 710936

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Rachel Hyland, 07595

932307

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Ranskill & Torworth:

Michael Gray,

01777 700318

Scrooby: Barry Bowles,

01909 732121

County Councillors:

Ranskill & Torworth:

Liz Yates 01777 860219

Scrooby: Sheila Place

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Police: 101

Non urgent enquiries:

PC Alan Johnson

07595 009264

PCSO Cath Phillips,

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The **STAR** No. 337 February 2013
Scrooby, Torworth And Ranskill
All the news and views from our three villages



PLEASE NOTE

All Advertising copy and alterations to advertisements must be submitted by the 16th of the month.

News items for the STAR must be sent to your village representative by the 16th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.

After these dates the advertisements and news items will be printed, if wanted, in the following month's issue.

If you would like to send your copy by Email send it to:

copy4star@yahoo.co.uk

IN MY OPINION

Would you like to contribute something that you feel strongly about and want to tell our readers? If so, please email it or let your village representative have your copy (around 350 words) in good time for next month.

Our Email address:

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STAR OPINION

Public opinion has played its part in persuading East Midlands ambulance chiefs into a re-think on their proposals to close a number of ambulance stations across the region, including those in Retford and Worksop.

A decision on wide ranging changes to ambulance services was scheduled for January but a huge public outcry against the proposals resulted in the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS), delaying their decision until March.

Back in November, the STAR urged readers to support the protests over the proposals which would see a number of ambulance stations close – including Retford – and replaced with two “super hubs” in Nottingham and Sutton in Ashfield, supported by a string of “stand by” points and “community ambulance points” dotted across the region.

An EMAS spokesman said: “As a direct result of the feedback from the consultation (on the proposals) we are now looking at additional options which will allow us to meet our ‘Being the Best’ ambitions. On the EMAS estate, in particular, it means we will be carrying out further analysis to make sure the final proposals work operationally and financially.”

Protests against the EMAS plans have been led by Bassetlaw MP John Mann, who said the delay was “a good sign”, and he called on EMAS to withdraw their plans.

Although EMAS claims ambulance cover will not be reduced by their proposals, it is difficult to see any merit in a plan that involves ambulances virtually “hanging around on street corners” waiting to be called into action.

The fact that almost 20,000 people signed John Mann’s petition would seem to suggest that a great many people across Bassetlaw agree and are genuinely fearful that these proposals will put lives at risk rather than improving a service that is already far from ideal.

Our ambulances already have to transport heart attack victims to Sheffield, stroke victims to Doncaster and all other patients to Bassetlaw, demands which take ambulances out of service for lengthy periods, so if the “street corner” ambulance is already in service, how long will it take to call an ambulance from Sutton in Ashfield?

Instead of dialling 999, it will be quicker to catch the bus - or just call the local undertaker instead!



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Taking care of your new gadgets

Christmas may seem a long while ago now, but many of you will have received some valuable electronic gifts and gadgets, or may have treated yourselves to sales bargains.

And, according to Samantha Hancock, Nottinghamshire Police's Pre-Crime Unit manager, now is the perfect time to build in some protection against theft, or in the worst case, potentially recover your property should it leave your possession.

Said Samantha: "Why not make use of FREE apps and software which can be downloaded? Whilst most don't carry Police accreditation, their use is encouraged, so you should research the options available and work out which is best for you."

Prey software which can be downloaded onto your laptop, mobile phone or any other hardware and will track it if the device is lost or stolen. If there is an integral camera, it can even take a picture of the person using your gadget, as well as telling you where the device is located.

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i-cloud If using an iPad, you can keep all of your documents in the 'ether'. This way you do not lose that dissertation, vital work records or precious photos. You can also see if someone saves their documents on your machine and they can potentially be traced this way too.

Various mobile phone manufacturers now offer their own equivalent of iCloud, such as HTC newer models, generally free of charge – always worth asking or Googling "Back up online" In addition to free products, there are also licensed products available such as LoJack, but these come attract an annual subscription cost.

Immobilise. This is a secure website where you can record all the details of your valuables from TVs to power tools, cycles to jewellery. You can record serial numbers and descriptions, and even upload photos. If you are unfortunate enough to suffer a theft or burglary, just press a button and all the information is passed through to the police database. For more details just go to

www.immobilise.com

Using PIN codes or patterns

It is very strongly recommended that any IT equipment be protected by using a password.

Mobile phones owners should always make use of a PIN code or pattern or any other security features available in order to make accessing these devices more difficult. This is particularly important for Smart Phones.



Winning cover design

The cover for the Christmas edition of the STAR was designed by nine years old Albie Gibbs-Price, a pupil at Ranskill Primary School.

Albie is pictured (above), with one of the first copies of the Christmas edition.

Pupils at Ranskill Primary School were asked to design a cover for the Christmas edition, and Albie's design was chosen as the winning entry.



The STAR's Christmas edition was the first to be printed on our new printing machine. Volunteer printers Derek Gill (left) and Graham Hadley are pictured with one of the first copies off the new machine.



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Banish condensation or mould problems in your home by helping it breathe this winter

Condensation is becoming an increasingly common problem effecting UK households.

As we take measures to make our homes more energy efficient with the long term aim to save money on heating bills by adding improvements such as double glazing, cavity wall and loft installation, natural ventilation is reduced. Effectively, the home is being 'sealed up' and is unable to breathe. As a result of this, high levels of humidity are trapped inside the home leading to condensation and mould issues. What's more, high levels of humidity create the perfect breeding ground for other indoor nasties such as the household dust mite, well-known triggers of asthma and allergies.

Most people are unaware about the detrimental effect that poor ventilation can have on both their health and the fabric of their home. So whilst we may be saving pennies by consuming less energy and keeping our homes warmer, we are overlooking the vital ingredient that helps us and the home to breathe – ventilation!

The first signs of condensation are usually streaming windows, walls and even doors - and it does not end there! Over time this will affect the decor of the property, wall-paper may start to peel, mould (usually black) will appear on window frames, walls and ceilings. The main source for excess condensation in a property is simple – poor or inadequate ventilation.

Top tips to help minimise Condensation

It's a tricky one but try to keep the inside temperature reasonably constant for as much of the time as possible. The following tips should also help to reduce condensation:

- Clothes should not be dried over the radiator, where possible avoid drying clothes indoors. However, for a lot of people there is no alternative to this, especially in winter.
- Place clothes on a drying airer or rack in a well-ventilated room with the door shut.
- Tumble dryers should be properly vented - the condensate reservoir should be emptied on a regular basis (if the machine has one).
- Existing extract fans may be disabled, blocked up or under performing
- Its common sense but extract fans or cooker hoods should be used when cooking or bathing/showering, and keeping the pan lids on whilst cooking will also help to avoid excess steam.

The last tip involves a tiny bit of housekeeping:

- Check the existing extractor fans in your home, do they work? If an extractor fan cannot hold a postcard then they are not providing sufficient ventilation and should be replaced.

With soaring fuel costs and ever prevalent security risks – opening a window is not a practical long term solution. The only real way to banish condensation is to improve the indoor air quality with good ventilation but where do you start?

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- *Cakes for everyone at the Christmas Fair.*

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We are local to Ranskill

Thanks, Joy

Ranskill Thursday Club organiser Joy Tudbury got quite a shock at the December meeting in St Barnabas' Church, when she was presented with Christmas gifts and a floral arrangement by grateful members. Joy, second left, is pictured receiving her gifts from Lilian Middlemass (left), Jim Brailsford and Jane McHale.



Sponsored Walk to aid Hospice

Bassetlaw Hospice are organising the Bassetlaw Bash - a Sponsored Walk on Sunday April 21st as part of their 2013 fundraising calendar.

The walk provides a great opportunity for individuals and families to support the Charity by raising awareness and funds through sponsorship and it is a great way of promoting walking as healthy exercise for everyone.

The Vermuyden Group of the Long Distance Walkers Association are working alongside the hospice to ensure this event is a real success so that local people with life limiting diseases and their carers can continue to receive the support and palliative care they need.

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust have kindly agreed to host the start and finish of the walk at the Idle Valley Rural Learning Centre, Retford. The walk takes in the attractive and varied scenery of North Nottinghamshire including scenic and interesting lengths of the Chesterfield Canal, the

rolling hills and strawberry fields around North Wheatley and the extensive mosaic of wildlife habitats which make up the Idle Valley Nature Reserve.

The event has distances of five and 11 miles for all the family to participate in and 20 and 26 miles for those that would like a challenge.

Refreshments in the form of both food and drink will be provided at several checkpoints and thanks to sponsorship from Western Power Distribution all participants will receive a hot meal at the finish.

A certificate will be presented to all successful entrants and a commemorative badge will also be available for purchase.

If you are interested in taking part in the walk and gathering extra sponsorship money for the hospice further details and entry forms are available from The Appeal Office on 01777 710444 or can be download from: <http://www.ldwa.org.uk/vermuyden>

Scrooby Garden Club

Scrooby Garden Club is an informal group, and we meet throughout the year. Here are some of the activities we get up to.

- **Hold Plant Swaps in the village hall**
- **Run a plant stall at the village show Visit each others gardens.**
- **Visit gardens around the county**
- **Work on community gardens in and around the village**
- **Study and record the plant life on parish land, footpaths, roadsides in and around the village**
- **Have a Christmas party**
- **Visit nurseries around the county**

We will be meeting for our AGM on **Friday February 8th at 7:30pm in The Pilgrim Fathers** when we will discuss activities for the coming year. Please come along to help decide on the programme.

If you need to know anything else please ring Ann Robbins 01302 710318

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Recent crime in Ranskill area

Between 1800 hours on January 7th and 0900 hours on January 8th a vehicle parked in a secure car park off Station Road, Ranskill was scratched down the side.

Please consider garaging vehicles overnight. Where this is not possible off road parking in well lit areas is preferable.

Between 2300 hours on January 7th and 1000 hours on January 8th damage was caused to a set of front gates at a property on Mathersey Road, Ranskill.

This seems to have been caused either by a vehicle reversing into the gates or a person using force to try and attempt to open the locked gates.

Between 2200 hours on January 7th and 1125 hours on January 8th a chain saw was stolen from an insecure brick outhouse at a property on Blyth Road, Ranskill.

Please ensure that all property, including outbuildings, security is reviewed and ensure that all garages, sheds and outside stores are always locked. Shed alarms are available to purchase at various locations across East Bassetlaw, including the Top Shop in Ranskill.

Between 1230 hours and 1330 hours on Janu-

ary 9th a car was broken into whilst parked off Green Mile Lane, Babworth. This occurred whilst the driver was taking the dog for a walk. A window was smashed and several items were stolen from within. Whenever leaving a vehicle unoccupied, even for a short period of time, never leave items on view in your vehicle. A criminal will usually only break into a vehicle if there is something attractive and visible from the outside.

Between 2300 hours on January 11th and 0900 hours on January 12th a property on Station Road, Ranskill was burgled. Entry was gained to a rear conservatory and items were stolen from within. No access was gained to the rest of the property.



Christmas Fare: Members of the Thursday Club enjoy their Christmas Party

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Little Owls Toddler Group

We meet in the Nursery
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Tuesday 9.00 - 11.30

We also run a lunch club from 11.30 - 1.00 p.m

Little Owls - We have a parent and toddler session on Tuesday 2.00 - 3.30 p.m

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web address www.ranskillnursery.co.uk



Nativity scene: Members of the cast who performed in Cock-a-Doodle Christmas.

CHILDREN and staff at Ranskill Primary School have been helping with the household chores in a way they never thought possible.

All the pupils and staff were immortalised in self-portraits on a commemorative tea towel which helped raise nearly £300 towards the new trim trail that is being planned for the school grounds.

It was organised by the Friends of Ranskill Primary who, having sold all 170 red and white tea towels, would like to say a big thank you to everyone who bought one and hope it raises a smile during the washing up.

The Friends were also busy in the run-up to Christmas with preparations for the Christmas Fair at St Barnabas Church which they organised together with Ranskill Nursery and the church.

A small band of parents and children even braved plummeting temperatures to go carol singing

Tea towels raise £300 for trail

on the estate near school and the railway line.

The Friends sold £500 worth of photographs at the Cock-a-Doodle Christmas performance, with a percentage of the sales also going towards the trail.

Head teacher Helen Leone said: "We would like to extend our thanks to our fantastic Friends committee for all their hard work last term, and to the parents in supporting them in raising additional funds for our school.

Last term alone their organised events included two discos, the Christmas Fair, the Christmas photographs and the tea towels. "Meetings are due to take place early in the term about placing orders for the outside play equipment. This could never have happened without their amazing efforts."

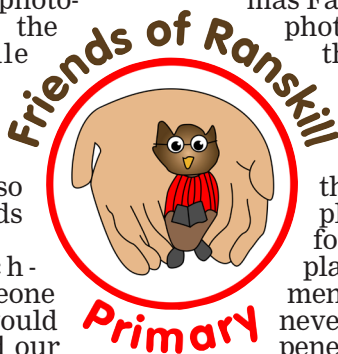
The Friends are always eager to hear from any parents interested in getting involved in coming up with fundraising ide-

as or who are able to help in other ways.

For further information contact secretary Caroline Hennigan on 01777 818991 or leave a message with the school office.

Ranskill Nursery is £385 better off after fundraising efforts at the Christmas fair and the nativity.

Selling raffle tickets for a fantastic hamper of festive fare raised £262 and a bauble lucky dip, guess the number of sweets in the jar, name the dog and stallholders' donations brought in £123.



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- 1 oz butter
- 4 oz grated cheese
- 4 oz chopped onion - fry gently
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 oz soft white crumbs
- 2 tablespoons milk
- $\frac{1}{2}$ level teaspoon Garlic salt
- pepper
- 1 level teaspoon mixed dried herbs
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon Dry mustard
- 1 lb skinned, sliced tomatoes.

Add onion mix to crumbs, cheese & seasonings. Beat eggs and milk and add. Spread onto hot pastry case. Scatter any rough pieces of tomato on top then arrange neat slices overlapping to cover. Sprinkle with pepper. Bake for further 20-25 mins. Brush hot flan with extra melted butter. Serve hot or room temperature.

COOK'S COOKIES - HONEY OAT LOAF

- Medium loaf tin or 7"-8" square shallow tin.
- 4 oz marg
- 3 oz sugar
- 4 oz clear honey
- 2 large eggs
- 4 oz self-raising flour
- 4 oz porridge oats
- pinch of salt

Cream fat and sugar, beat in eggs then honey. Fold in flour & oats. If mix is too stiff add a little milk. 350F /180C/ Mark 4 for 45 mins. Serve as it is or buttered slices.

COFFEE MORNING Saint Barnabas Church in aid of



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SATURDAY MARCH 16th

You helped raise a magnificent £640 last September for the MACMILLAN APPEAL. Can we do it again?

I need offers of help, raffle prizes, tombola prizes, cakes to sell and to eat, new/nearly new items for a stall, ideas ... even a packet of sausages for hot dogs & bacon butties! Everything helps! It is great fun and your opportunity to support two very good causes. Please join in.

Ring Joy Tudberry 01777 818419

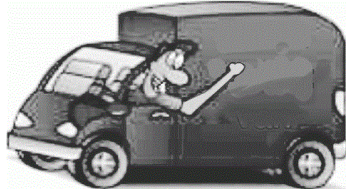
PLEASE COME TO OUR COFFEE MORNING

I have a personal interest in raising money for the Air Ambulance. Last year my 11 year old granddaughter Hannah fell off her bike on a field path in Clarborough and badly fractured her lower leg. Although not life threatening it was difficult to reach her with an ambulance so she was air lifted to Lincoln Hospital quickly and efficiently. Just as important, let's not forget the good work the Marie Curie nurses do, so much comfort and help has been given to terminally ill patients.

Jean McGill

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Have you bin doing it right? No, of course, we've bin doing it wrong. An open reply to Councillor Julie Leigh.

Julie Leigh gave us a hard time in the last STAR for not sorting our rubbish correctly. Has Bassetlaw DC thought why this might be? As a specialist in *Human Error*, I have been thinking it over. Why are sorting errors of this type inevitable?

1. Humans have to manage their sparse resources when problem solving and sorting is a classic human problem solving task. A typical short cut to make jobs manageable is *expectation*. So when we use the bottle bank – green bottles go in the green bin so that matches expectation and so errors are reduced. Now recycling by its very nature is “*GREEN*”, so expectation is strong that recycling stuff goes in the green bin – not so – Bassetlaw wants the “*GREEN*” stuff in the blue bin. So expect sorting errors.

2. All human tasks rely on good environmental conditions for accurate performance but often we have to do things in poor conditions, like in poor light. Often we fill our bins in the dark. Has Bassetlaw DC not noticed that under sodium street lights it is

not possible to discriminate between the bin colours? So expect sorting errors.

3. The more complex the sorting task, the more errors occur. Let's consider the task. Metal goes in the re-cycling, but not foil – is foil not metal? Plastic bottle ok, but no lids, or just detached. If a lid on a plastic bottle condemns the load then that's what will happen. Some plastic is good in the blue bin, some plastic is bad, but it's all arbitrary and Bassetlaw want you to learn these seemingly illogical categories. So expect sorting errors.

4. Dealing with rubbish is not a high priority or important task. We do not expect to have to apply care, thought or great diligence when garbage sorting. So if it's tricky, expect sorting errors.

5. When disposing of our rubbish the Bassetlaw categories are not the only tricky ones, for example, what should we do with glass items, small electronic items or garden rubbish? Bassetlaw does not cater for these, so why bother with fine distinctions on plastic? So expect sorting errors.

6. The usual strategy for improving reliability in crucial sorting tasks is by double checking and independent monitoring. However, these do not guarantee 100% accuracy and are hardly appropriate in domestic rubbish sorting. So expect sorting errors. So apply sanctions, Bassetlaw inspectors will inspect your bins and refuse to take them. Sanctions of this type have little benefit for the reliability of a poorly designed task. Even with the most stringent sanctions, expect errors.

Our whole understanding of human performance when undertaking routine tasks is that errors are inevitable and predictable. The way it is now, if the presence of wrong items in the blue bin condemns the whole load, then there will be a lot of loads condemned.

So Councillor Leigh if you really want to reduce rubbish sorting errors, don't threaten us, just make the task easier.

**Ed Marshall Hon FIEHF,
CPsychol
Scrooby.**

Over 65s enjoy their New Year lunch

The Ranskill, Torworth and Scrooby Over 65's New Year Lunch was held on Saturday 5th January in Scrooby Village hall when 52 people sat down to enjoy lunch, play a game of bingo, have a quiz and enjoy music from the Scrooby group.

The event is hosted by Ranskill Guide and Scout Groups and was funded by money raised at the Scout Summer Special together with a £100 grant to Scrooby Parish Council from Nottinghamshire County Council.

Thank you to Carolyn for her support, Christine and Penny for their help in the kitchen - a role they

have full filled for many years - to Liz, Hannah, Kim and Jill and to Katie and Georgia from the 1st Ranskill Guides.

Thanks also to Tessa, Emily and Susie from the 1st Ranskill Brownies who did their best for nearly six hours and did a fantastic job and gained their Hostess Badge and also thoroughly enjoyed themselves and want to know when they can do it again.

Janet Symonds

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Scrooby Knitters and Stitches

We are a group of knitters and stitches of varying abilities who meet once a week come rain or shine in the Village Hall, Scrooby at 2pm every Thursday.

Recently we have been knitting jumpers, blankets, vests, clothes hanger covers, scarves, gloves, chickens and tea cosies. Crocheting babies blankets, peg bags and shopping bags.

Quilting patchwork bedspreads and making cross stitch motifs and finishing off tapestries left to us by our mothers. One of us is threatening to make a rag rug and some people just come to catch up with the gossip.

We made a banner to go on our stall at the village show; and you can see it hung outside the village hall when we are in residence.

We are a friendly and tolerant bunch, happy to lead astray anyone who wants to learn a new technique or wants help with a stalled project, and you only have to make the tea once in a blue moon.

Please join us if you like, there's no membership fee, just £1 each session to help pay for the hire of the hall.

Tea and refreshments are served during the afternoon.

If you need to know anything else give me a ring, Ann Robbins, on 01302 710318 or just turn up next Thursday afternoon at 2pm.



Phoenix Theatre Company

Bawtry Phoenix Theatre Company's next production will be *When We Are Married* by J. B. Priestly, which will be presented at the theatre on Station Road, Bawtry from March 2nd to March 9th.

Set in turn-of-the-century Yorkshire, this most enjoyable play, with some great, colourful characters, concerns three middle-aged married couples, who tend to look askance towards anyone who does not come up to their high moral and religious standards.

Imagine their dismay, then, when all three couples discover that they're not legally married.

Tickets will be available from the SPAR shop on Station Road in Bawtry from mid-February.

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TUESDAY - Carlton-in-Lindrick

The Parish Centre, Church Lane
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Consultant Caroline –
07860 119208
Email: carolineannehill@hotmail.com
**

WEDNESDAY - Retford

St Swithun's School Hall, Grove Street
6.00pm & 7.45pm
Consultant Caroline –
07860 119208
Email: carolineannehill@hotmail.com
**

WEDNESDAY - Bircotes

Harworth & Bircotes Town Hall,
Scrooby Road, Bircotes
6.00pm
Consultant Danielle –
07850 285590
Email: danielleelliottsw@yahoo.co.uk
**

THURSDAY - Retford

St Swithun's School Hall, Grove Street
6.00pm
Consultant Caroline –
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THURSDAY - Bawtry

Bawtry Hall Conference Centre,
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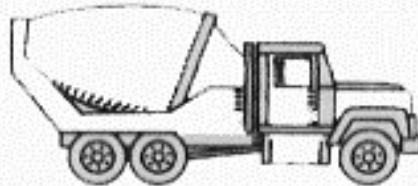
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Christian Perspective



A good attitude to start out with into a New Year is to come to God open-handed - an attitude of keeping everything that's to do with yourself in an open-handed way towards God.

First look back and offer to Him all that's happened in the last year, good or bad. Ask him for his perspective on the difficult things and thank him for the good things.

And then, looking forward into 2013, come with the same open handed attitude. I came across something recently about the attitude of an open hand: that it speaks of peace, welcome, and a sense of giving and receiving.

As we come in this way we can receive new impartation from God, to be ready to receive commissioning for new areas or

directions of service. The times are changing, but God does not change. He still speaks to his people. He still has good plans and purposes for each one of his children and if we come in this open-handed way he can equip and direct us; he can strengthen, encourage and sustain us as we move on into a New Year and into a new season with him.

So come open-handedly with anything you have and offer it openly to him. The more we offer all we have and are back to God the more he can use us, and the more we will be a blessing to others.

Continue to stay in this open-handed way and ask him to give you direction, understanding, fresh wisdom and renewed vision for the coming season.



Brenda Critchley

Puzzle for February

Center Dot Sudoku Puzzle - Medium

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

About this puzzle

The aim of Sudoku is to enter a number from 1 through 9 in each cell of the 9x9 grid, made up of 3x3 sub-grids. Each row, column and region must contain only one instance of each number. The puzzle to the left is graded as medium. This puzzle is slightly different to the standard Sudoku puzzle in that the squares in the centre of each sub-grid must contain only one instance of each number. The solution can be found on the next page.

This puzzle was provided by:

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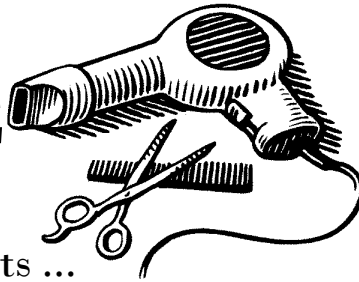
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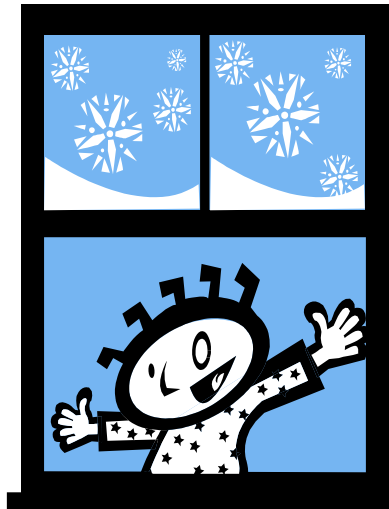
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Lead thieves hit the area again

Nottinghamshire Police have issued a warning that the problem of thefts of lead from the tops of bay windows has started up again in the Retford area.

Thieves are known to have been operating recently in the Hallcroft area to the north of the town where lead has been stripped from a single storey window top of a dwelling during the night.



Ranskill Mothers' Union Restart meetings

Ranskill Mothers' Union restart their meetings after the Christmas break on Wednesday February 13th at 2pm. Ray Goodburn will be the speaker. The new Deanery Leader for the Mothers' Union is Marlene Simpson. The Commissioning Service will be at St Barnabas' Church in Ranskill on Wednesday 6th February at 7pm. All Welcome.



Thank you

I recently held my son's birthday party at St Barnabas' in Ranskill and I just wanted to say what a lovely venue it is to hold an event. There was plenty of room for play and the well stocked kitchen has everything you could possibly need, but best of all was the under floor heating which on a cold December day was just lovely. I cannot recommend St Barnabas' enough - thank you.
Jo Timpson

"Metal items of any kind are vulnerable to theft if left out at any time," said Sergeant Tony Crofts of the East Bassetlaw Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Team "Please be vigilant. If any recent activity in your neighbourhood has raised your suspicions, please contact your local police team by dialling 101 or contact Crimestoppers confidentially on 0800 555 111. "If a crime is actually taking place please dial 999. Swift action could prevent further crimes from being committed and could lead to offenders being arrested." Sergeant Crofts added: "You can help reduce your own risk of becoming a victim at home, by making sure you do not leave items outside unattended and in view of the road, items such as lawn mowers, garden chairs, ladders or any other metal items. "Property marking is also available for items stored in sheds. Please contact your local beat team if you want further information about this," he added Details of your local beat team can be found on the Nottinghamshire Police web site and on page 2 of the **STAR**.

Solution to this month's puzzle

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Quiz Night

In aid of Scarecrow Festival.
Ranskill Church
Friday February 22nd.
Tickets (£5), from Dave Hill,
Hilary Skelton or Michelle Jafar,
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oOo----oOo

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	Blyth	11am	Common Worship	Holy Communion
	Scrooby	9.30am	Common Worship	Morning Prayer
Feb 10th	Ranskill	9.30am	Common Worship	Holy Communion
	Blyth	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	
		11.00am	Holy Communion	
Feb 17th	Ranskill	9.30am	Common Worship	Holy Communion
	Blyth	11.00am	Common Worship	Holy Communion
Feb 24th	Ranskill	9.30am	Common Worship	Holy Communion
	Blyth	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	
		11.00am	Family Worship	

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Coffee morning raises £450

Members of the Ranskill and Torworth Women's Institute would like to say a belated "Thank You" to all those who attended the Coffee Morning held in St. Barnabas church on November 14th. The sum of £425 was raised.

The raffle prizes were won by Mrs. H. Bowley (Calendar), Mrs. C. Simms (Preserves), Mr. T. Hutson (Tin Quality Street), Mrs. A. Pacey (Candle), Mrs. M. Ogle, (Skin Spa), Mrs. R. Plant (Champagne), Mrs. L. Middlemass (Cake), Mrs. R. Whitfield (Cake).

We have had a very successful year with speakers on various subjects, and we had a number of social outings. We have also been able to donate £200 to the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance, and £200 to the Bassetlaw Hospice.

This money was raised by members of the public giving donations for refreshments served by members at the Flu Vaccination sessions held in the Butter Market in Retford, in October.

We also gave Christmas gifts to the Residents of Barnby Court residential home.

Membership of the WI is open to ladies of 18 years and upwards.

Come along as a visitor and see what it is all about. Meetings are held in the Village Hall, Kennel Drive, Barnby Moor. On the 4th Tuesday of the month commencing 7.30 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome. For further information please telephone Pat Blatchford on 01777 818519.



ZUMBA®

Ditch the workout, Join the party! **FITNESS**

Tuesday
7.30—8.30
SCROOBY
Village Hall

Wednesday
7.30—8.30
EVERTON
Village Hall

Thursday
6.15—7.15
Friday
6.00—7.00
BLYTH
Memorial Hall

Zumba is an effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness workout.

Contact Sharron Gartland on: 07810 833526

Crimebeat

**A monthly look at ways to
Combat Crime.**

**With East Bassetlaw's Neighbourhood
Policing Inspector, Neil Bellamy**



Don't advertise your stuff to thieves

It is often said that "It pays to advertise" and a quick look at TV or any newspaper or magazine proves the truth of that old adage.

But when it comes to your personal property, your home, your identity, your belongings and your vehicle, advertising certainly isn't the best policy.

We all have a part to play in keeping crime down and you should never advertise your personal stuff to thieves.

This is the first in a series of articles aimed at keeping crime down and keeping you and your belongings safe.

Many crimes are a spur of the moment thing with thieves taking advantage of an open window, valuables left on display in a car, or an unlocked shed or garage. But simple, inexpensive and common sense precautions can make a real difference.

Not securing your home, your car, your belongings or your identity just isn't worth the cost – or the hassle it will bring.

Firstly: Securing your home: Statistics show that a home with little or no security is more than five times more likely to be burgled than a home with good security, so secure your home – and put off thieves.

Here's a simple check list:

- I've checked all the doors and windows are locked, even though I'm only popping out for a minute.
- I've fitted deadlocks to all outside doors. (Burglars hate them because you need a key to open them from the inside as well as the outside.
- I've made sure my house keys and car keys are out of sight and not in easy reach of doors or windows.
- I've fitted key operated locks to all the windows. (Burglars don't like breaking glass because it makes a noise and there is a risk of leaving forensic evidence.

- I've installed a visible burglar alarm and I turn it on whenever I leave the house.
- I haven't hidden a spare key outside or in the shed and I've left the lights and radio on a timer for the evening when I'm out so it looks as though I'm in.
- I've made sure thieves cannot get into the garden. There is a good fence, the gate is padlocked, the garden shed is locked and I haven't left ladders and tools outside for a thief to use.
- I haven't left cash and personal documents lying around for a thief to take.

Remember, thieves love computers. As well as the cash they can get from selling them, computers often contain personal information they can use to commit fraud.

Keep your computer away from windows, if you need to carry your laptop with you don't draw attention to it – a rucksack is a good disguise rather than a computer case.

Keep PINs, passwords and personal financial information safe. Don't send bank details by email or store them in your computer. Back up your work regularly, keep the disks separate from your computer and when ordering goods over the internet be sure the company has a secure server.

Finally, Insurance – get it or regret it. It's cheaper than paying out to replace your stolen belongings.

AND – Mark your important and expensive property with your postcode and house number using a security marker pen. It's also a good idea to keep a record of the make, model and serial number of your valuable items.

NEXT MONTH: Protecting your identity and protecting your personal belongings.

For further information on combating crime, you can contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team Beat Manager, Pc Alan Johnson on 07595 009264 or PCSO Dave Airey on 07525 226838.

And don't forget, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously at any time on 0800 555 111.

**Printing
for local
groups and
organisations**



**Thanks to a generous National Lottery Grant,
the STAR has now taken delivery of a new, full
colour printing machine.**

One of the conditions of the Awards for All grant is that the project makes a difference to the lives of the people in the area.


So with that in mind, the new printer will be made available to recognised groups and organisations in Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill for the printing of publicity material, posters flyers and the like to promote their activities and improve the quality of life for residents of the STAR's circulation area.

So, the STAR's new printer is now available — at a very reasonable cost — to groups and organisations, offering a new and improved means of communication with residents of Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill.

For further details of what The STAR can offer you, or to discuss your printing needs, Please contact our advertising manager, Phil Critchley by e-mailing him at:

copy4star@yahoo.co.uk

SCENE IN PERSPECTIVE

Will you be my Valentine?
Will you let our hearts entwine 
Regardless of what comes to pass?
Wig on bed knob? Teeth in glass?
Wooden leg, glass eye benign?
Won't you be my Valentine?

Joy Tudberry

Ranskill Women's Institute

Mr. George Buchanan will be the speaker at the next meeting of the Ranskill and Torworth Women's Institute, which will take place on Tuesday February 26th. Mr Buchanan's talk is entitled "Growing up at Hodssock Priory".

Our meetings are held at the Village Hall, Kennel Drive, Barnby Moor. On the 4th Tuesday in the month. Commencing 7.30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

For further information please telephone Pat Blatchford on 01777 818519.



**Leaflet
Distribution
For local
Groups and
businesses**

Let the STAR promote your business.

The STAR can now distribute leaflets promoting your activities. Inserted into the STAR, your leaflet will be distributed to **EVERY HOME** in the villages of Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill.

Take the leg-work out of leaflet distribution. Contact our advertising manager, Phil Critchley by e-mail at copy4star@yahoo.co.uk

**You will be surprised at what the
STAR can do for you!**

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

on Friday 1st March 2013

at

St Mary and St Martin Church

BLYTH

At 7pm

Speaker:- Irene Tissington

Service prepared by the Christian Women of France

'I was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me'

All welcome - Men, Women and Young People

Light Refreshments

2nd Ranskill Scout Group

2013 QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 8th MARCH

7.30 PM

Scrooby Village Hall

**PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER & DESSERT
(BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLES)**

TICKETS £5.00

Tickets on sale NOW.

Seats are limited to 60 and admittance is by ticket
only.

(Tickets will not be saved without payment.)

CONTACT SECTION LEADERS

Or ring

Jill Swannack 01302 710099

Carolyn West 01777 818016

Yes it's... Barneys Messy Church!!!



**Come and join us for a time of fun, food and
friendship at St Barnabas Church,
Ranskill, on Thursday 14th February!**

Donations to cover the cost of the food are welcome thank you.

We look forward to seeing you there!



On the second Friday of each month

7pm - 8.30pm at Ranskill Church

All 11 - 16 year olds welcome!

(Next one is 8th Feb)



We need volunteers, from supervising to running the tuck shop to leading an activity one month (e.g. teaching martial arts).
If anyone is interested please call Mary on 01777 816108.

Ranskill Parish Council Newsletter

December 2012

(including Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th December)

CRIME REPORT & POLICE NEWS

Incidents of crime in Ranskill during November included two house burglaries, two burglaries of other types and one theft of farm equipment. PCSO Dave Airey reported that November 2012 had seen a crime 'spike' across the Beat area including fuel theft and theft from sheds and garages. A seasonal crime trend has also been evident which raises the need for residents to be aware of the importance of household security and to not leave motor vehicles defrosting unattended.

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY

The launch of the sale of shed alarms from The Top Shop last month was highly successful and the first batch of 20 sold out fast; consequently, a second batch of Solon Security PIR alarms is now on sale. In response the need for additional security the home and property security initiative has now been extended to include property marking. To that end, a limited number of SURECODE Permanent UV Security Marker pens have been made available by PCSO Dave Airey which are ideal for marking electrical items, tools, equipment, garden equipment and office equipment. This form of marking is normally considered to be useful for up to two years and the pens can be obtained from the Parish Clerk on request.

PROPOSED FORMATION OF A RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

It was proposed by a member of the public that a Residents' Association be created to help to address local issues such as improved youth facilities and to promote community spirit and boost social cohesion in the village. This can be done by working closely with the local authorities, Neighbourhood Watch (and its successor), Nottinghamshire Police and other community organisations. The proposal has the support of Ranskill Parish Council (within its limited resources) and volunteers are now being sought to form a Residents' Association Committee. If you would like to help by offering a little time, expertise, skills and/or services, please call the Parish Clerk on 01777 816864 who will provide contact information.

HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC

After a meeting between NCC Highways and representatives from Ranskill PC, village residents, W H Ottley Ltd and Ranskill Bowls Club, the proposed restrictions at the crossroads have been revised in response to concerns about local access. The revised plan will include double-yellow lines around the junctions but will also have single-yellow lines and time restrictions on the north side of Station Road. Lines will be extended further around the junctions with Mattersey Road and Blyth Road and bus stop 'boxes' will be properly defined. The draft proposal is now expected early in 2013.

FINANCE

Ranskill PC is now registered with Darbys Certified Chartered Accountants Ltd, Retford, for payroll administration in order to comply with new PAYE Real Time Information (RTI) requirements coming into effect in 2013.

It was RESOLVED that the following cheques be passed for payment:

1523	John D McGill	Litter picking	£ 30.00
1524	NCC Ranskill Primary School	Hall & Photocopying Services	£ 41.50
1525	Solon Security Ltd	Shed Alarms Stock	£ 240.00
1526	Notts CC Supplies	Stationery	£ 21.60
1527	HMRC	PAYE	£ 77.00
1528	D McAra	Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£ 307.50

PLANNING APPLICATION & PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

One planning application was received in November, 12/01695/TPO, to fell a damaged sycamore tree and replace it at Osceola, Mattersey Road, Ranskill. There were no objections but it was passed with the proviso that the tree be replaced with another tree in keeping with its surroundings and then maintained properly. In January 2013 Bassetlaw DC will introduce changes to the planning consultation process. Consequently, Ranskill PC is now registered for electronic planning consultation which will make case tracking easier and more transparent.

RANSKILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - JANUARY 2013

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held after the Ranskill & Torworth Joint Burial Committee Meeting on Tuesday 15th January 2013 at 7.30 pm at Ranskill Primary School.

Members of the public and press are very welcome to attend.

Parish Clerk: David McAra 01777 816864 or parishcouncil@ranskill.org.uk

Ranskill Parish Council Newsletter

January 2013

(including Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th January)

CRIME REPORT & POLICE NEWS

The last month saw eleven reported crimes across the whole beat area compared with nineteen crimes reported throughout November 2012 and fourteen crimes reported during the same period last year. Crime incidents in Ranskill included one burglary; three thefts from motor vehicles; one incident of criminal damage to a motor vehicle; one theft and one theft in a dwelling. There were also eight reported incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) across the beat area which again is beginning to cause concern; consequently, all incidents of ASB should be reported in order that they can be properly recorded and followed up by the police. It was reported that recent calls to police had been effective in reducing local crime so residents are encouraged to call 101 to report all incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour.

COLD WEATHER AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Harsh winter conditions can give rise to many additional requirements especially for the elderly; consequently, all residents are strongly encouraged to watch out for their neighbours report any cases of hardship as they arise. A local Food Bank is being established in coordination with The Well, Retford, and is expected to be operational by April. District Councillor Mike Gray has liaised with Rev Kate Bottley for 4 to 5 packs to be made available but volunteers will be required to distribute and replenish the supplies. Access to food support will be made via an assessment process that will verify the need and the issue of a food voucher, no cash will be involved.

RANSKILL & TORWORTH JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE

The 2012-13 External Audit was passed by accountants Clement keys. It was resolved to raise a precept of £700 for 2013/14 on the parish councils to be divided at 82% (£574) to Ranskill and 18% (£126) to Torworth. It was also agreed that the contract to mow the cemetery be given to North Notts Landscapes for the season 2013-14. Invoices of £1621.93 received since the last meeting were passed for payment and receipts of £1016.00 were acknowledged. The clerk's annual salary for 2012/13, calculated as 15 hrs at Spinal Point 20 and 15hrs at Spinal Point 21 plus £50 expenses, were accepted at a total cost of £342.57 including £68.51 PAYE. Burial and cremation fees have not been revised since July 2008; consequently, this will be done at the next meeting which will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 18th June 2013.

FINANCE

Budget and Precept 2013/14 - Information received from Bassetlaw DC announced an expected reduction in the annual Concurrent Grant, no change in the Burial Grant but a new Local Council Tax Benefit Grant of £1286 for 2013/14 only. Budget calculations indicated the need for a small rise in the precept for 2013/14; however, Councillors considered that in the current economic climate an increase in the precept above the rate of inflation would not be acceptable. Consequently, it was resolved to retain the precept at the 2012/13 level and fund any budgetary shortfall in 2013/14 from the existing reserve.

It was RESOLVED that the following cheques be passed for payment:

1529	John D McGill	Litter picking	£ 36.00
1530	Notts CC Supplies	2 x HP XL Printer Cartridges	£ 43.68
1531	HMRC	PAYE	£ 77.00
1532	D McAra	Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£307.50

PLANNING APPLICATION & PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

Three planning applications were received in December and January and considered with no objections:

- 12/01754/HSE - to erect a single storey and two storey rear extension and detached double garage at Richmond House, Mattersey Road, Ranskill.
- 12/01785/FUL - to erect a 2.4M secure fence to the north side of the Village Park, Mattersey Road, Ranskill.
- 12/01685/COU - for change of use to a cattery business and to erect a cattery shed at Whitegates Farm, Blyth Road, Ranskill.

RANSKILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - FEBRUARY 2013

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th February 2013
at 7.30 pm at Ranskill Primary School.

Members of the public and press are very welcome to attend.

Parish Clerk: David McAra 01777 816864 or parishcouncil@ranskill.org.uk

Torworth Parish Council

January 2013

(including Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January)

Vacancies—2 x Parish Councillors

We currently have 2 vacancies for Parish Councillors at Torworth. If you would like to volunteer to join the Parish Council and make a difference to your village please contact the Clerk—Rachel Hyland on 07595 932307 or email parishcouncil@torworth.org.uk

Playing Field Committee— The council would like to look at the possibility of restarting the playing field committee. If you would be interested in joining please contact us on 07595 32307 or parishcouncil@torworth.org.uk

CRIME There were no police representatives at the meeting but a report was sent. There was one reported crime in Torworth for the period 1st to 31st December— this was theft from a motor vehicle, there have been a number of crimes in the surrounding villages of this nature. The police would like to remind residents to ensure all vehicles are left secure, and all valuables removed overnight.

Notice to Householders

There are still shrubs and hedges overhanging public footpaths. Please could you arrange to clear them —you could be liable if someone is injured.

FINANCE

Annual Budget – 2 quotes received for the mowing, it has been decided that the contract will be awarded to North Notts Landscapes on a one year contract for 2013.

RESOLVED that the following cheques be passed for payment:

Sunstone Web & IT Services – Email set up and hosting	£65.99
Tee Pee – Huntsman Inn – Hire of Room	£10.00
R Hyland – Clerks Salary Dec	£95.90
R Hyland – Clerks Salary Jan	£95.90
HMRC – PAYE Dec	£23.80
HMRC – PAYE Jan	£23.80
R Hyland—Expenses - postage	£7.20

PLANNING

Applications:

Retford Gymnastics Club – Single storey side extension for new viewing room, toilets, office and changing rooms. (Planning portal ref: PP-02363386)

The councillors have no objections to the proposed extension.

Next Parish Council Meeting TUESDAY 12th February 2013 at The Huntsman Inn at 7.00 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Clerk: Rachel Hyland — 07595 932307

Email: parishcouncil@torworth.org.uk



ADVERTISE WITH THE STAR

The STAR reaches all residents of Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill plus outlets in Blyth, Mattersey and Barnby Moor

Advertising Rates:

- Size A: 5.0 cm wide by 5.0 cm deep - £3 per month or £30 per year
 - Size B: 10.2 cm wide by 5.0 cm deep - £6 per month or £60 per year
 - Size C: 5.0 cm wide by 10.2 cm deep - £6 per month or £60 per year
 - Size D: 10.2 cm wide by 10.2 cm deep - £12 per month or £120 per year
 - Size E: 15.4 cm wide by 5.0 cm deep - £9 per month or £90 per year
 - Size F: 15.4 cm wide by 10.2 cm deep - £18 per month or £180 per year
- Other sizes and full pages are available. Please ask for details.

Please cut along the dotted line below and post the slip, along with details of your advert to: The Advertising Editor, The STAR, 15 Ravenshill Close, Ranskill, RETFORD, DN22 8LY or telephone 01777 816963 or email copy4star@yahoo.co.uk



I would like to place an advert or renew an advert in the STAR!

Business Name (if applicable):

Contact Name:

Address:

Telephone number.....

Email address

Size (please circle your preferred choice): A B C D E F

Start month: Running for : m onths

Please make cheques payable to 'The Star'. All adverts **must be paid for in advance by the 16th of the month.** Cheque enclosed for £.....

Signed.....



Discount printing for local groups and organisations.

The printer used to print the STAR is available to local groups and organisations. We can produce posters, flyers, booklets etc. to your requirements.

For further details, send an email to: copy4star@yahoo.co.uk

Tick if a receipt is required



LOTTERY FUNDED



Breakfast at Citrus Café!

Enjoy a freshly cooked breakfast prepared for you whilst you relax in our café, any morning of the week till 11.30am. Available on request most afternoons too.

Cooked Breakfast

Consists of:-

- Lincolnshire Sausage
- Rasher of bacon
- Fried free-range egg
- Cooked whole tomato
- Baked Beans
- Sliced mushrooms

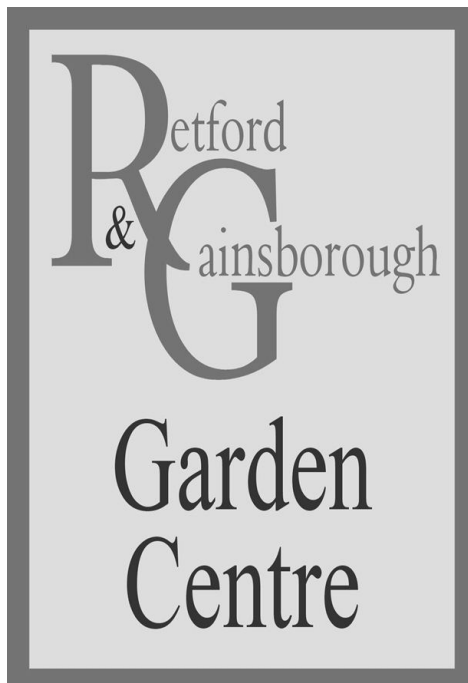
also served with a slice of toast and butter.



Visit our Garden Centre too for:-

Snowdrops, daffodils, tulips and other spring flowers, also Winter Pansies and Polyanthus to bring colour to your garden.

Seed Potatoes and onion sets also now in stock together with a large range of bulbs and seeds and food for your garden birds.



and Citrus Café

open everyday

**Bar Road, Saundby,
DN22 9EU**

Hot meals available every day and roast dinners available every weekend lunchtime too.

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Tel: (01427) 848784**



Citrus Café's spacious table area

