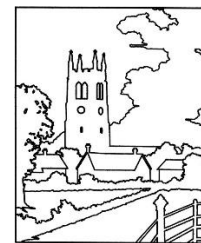




Rippingale News

www.Parishes.Lincolnshire.gov.uk/Rippingale



DECEMBER 2020

Editorial: Jamie Petch
69a Station St, Rippingale
rippingalenews@hotmail.com

Nature Notes for Winter 2020

As we near the 2nd of December we can look forward to some of the restrictions imposed upon us being lifted. Even so the latest lockdown regulations allow unlimited time for exercise and recreation as well as the possibility of travelling short distances for that purpose.

Autumn 2020 was one of the best that I can remember for seeds and berries. I have never seen so many acorns and conkers and some of the profusion of sloes (blackthorn berries) ended up in my Kilner Jars to make sloe gin.

Apart from the odd Chiffchaff which will likely over-winter here, the breeding summer migrants have long since departed, but they have been replaced by birds from Scandinavia and northern Europe, some of which are just passing through on their journey south, but others finding our climate relatively mild will winter here. Fieldfares, Redwings and continental Blackbirds arrived before the end of September. The thin seeping call of Redwings, nocturnal migrants, could be heard at night and they were soon joined, and massively outnumbered by flocks of the larger Fieldfares. About the size of a Mistle Thrush, the Fieldfare has a harsh chattering call and in addition to berries, they have an appetite for fruit such as Apples and Pears.

Much harder to find is the Woodcock; a wading bird that prefers woodlands to marshes and uses its long bill to probe for invertebrates in the leaf litter. I was lucky to see two birds during a recent walk in Temple Wood, one of which remained unseen until it sprang up from almost under my feet.

Other birds that winter around here, away from their normal habitats, in small numbers include Stonechats, a colourful relation of the Robin that nests on heaths and moors and the Grey Wagtail which nests near fast flowing mountain streams.

Look out for egrets too. Little Egrets are regularly observed in our fens and just the other day I watched an enormous Great White Egret flying along Rippingale Beck.

If you traverse the road between Rippingale and Dunsby it is worth scanning the resident flock of Greylag and Canada Geese that often graze in the pastures next to the reservoir. Recently they were joined by two Barnacle Geese and in past winters both Pink-footed and White-fronted Geese have dropped in to join them. Apart from Hedgehogs and Bats, which hibernate, most of our mammals are active during the winter. If you don't get Muntjac Deer in your garden, then a visit to Callan's Lane or Temple Wood should produce sightings in addition to the numerous and much larger Fallow Deer.

By the time we get to Christmas we should see Snowdrops blooming in our gardens and hedgerows and we will know that Spring is not too far behind.

Enjoy our lovely countryside, stay safe and well.

Ian Misselbrook

www.countryeye.org.uk also on Facebook and Twitter @IPMisselbrook.

200 Club Draw for November 2020.

£20 - Denise Clarke (23)

£10 - Cynthia Hallas (86), Louise Doncaster (18)

£5 - Carol Jepson (111), Derek Diess (190), Sue Knibbs (17), Pat Morton (97)

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL ABOVE WINNERS

Wendy Gray, Ripplingale Village Hall Management Committee

Ripplingale & district report for the November 2020 meeting held via zoom.

Well, members seem to be mastering the idea of holding meetings via Zoom. As a result, 23 members joined in, including one new member Ann and one visitor Jane.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Steve Seabrook, a retired Police Inspector. He was the officer in charge on the night of the Securitas Compound Robbery in Kent of £2 million. Steve invited members to take part in questions & answers, inviting them to decide on correct procedures. One member got all 10 questions correct! His talk was excellent.

Some business was then dealt with. Firstly, the pleasure of passing on November birthday wishes to Julie, Sue & Rachel the President. We have managed to organise a few collections in recent weeks for some charities. Michele received a letter of thanks for the ongoing collection of aluminium cans & crisp packets in aid of the Helipad Project. Also, Joy was thrilled with the contributions our members had donated to the local Food Bank, over 70KGS. We are now supporting the Corona Virus Detection Dogs project by way of buying tickets for a Christmas hamper being organised. This idea was spurred on by way of an excellent talk that we had a while ago on how the Detection Dogs came into being, identifying cancer cells initially, but now being used for much much more. Please ring Rachel to buy your tickets!

We have been invited to join in other Zoom meetings by both our Federation & Witham on the Hill WI, whose speaker will be David Palmer of Batemans Auctioneers of Stamford. It is also intended to hold alternating, virtual, coffee mornings/afternoon teas via Zoom, so that members can keep in touch. So, ladies, watch out for emails with invitation details to join in.

Our next meeting, due on 3rd December will also be via Zoom, when we hope to have some Christmas themed fun.

If anyone is feeling lonely during this difficult time and you think that our WI could provide some much-needed friendship, please do not hesitate to contact us. Enquiries to: - radwi@btinternet.com.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH RIPPINGALE

The Revd Neil Bullen

46a High Street

Morton

PE10 0NR

01778 219626 or 07729 004642

revdneil@yahoo.com

Website; The Ringstone in Aveland Group of Parishes

It goes without really saying in what extraordinary times we live in but we at the Church are doing our best to follow the recommendations we have to adhere to.

Future Services. We have set some dates for services, but it will depend on the outcome on December 2nd on what format we can adopt.

Sunday December 20th Christingle 4pm (On Zoom)

Tuesday December 22nd Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm (Streamed on Facebook and You Tube)

Thursday December 24th Christmas Eucharist 8pm (Streamed on Facebook and You Tube)

Having laid these plans this may all change if coming out of lock down allows us to have services as before in Church.

Before you make a move towards these events/services always check on the website above or contact the Churchwardens

Other News. Our "Restoration Beer" has all gone with all donations going to the Roof Fund.

Very many thanks to you all who donated.

We had a small Remembrance service around the War Memorial with social distancing, a very moving occasion in these different times.

We still have a few vacant numbers on our 200 club so please contact John Rowntree 01778 440264 especially as we have a big draw soon.

Both Churchwardens have been sworn in so it's now official!

Steve Warcup 01778 440704, Jonathan Newell 01778 441211 or 07771 825422

Parish Council News

Chairman – Cllr Chris Charlton; chairmanrpc4@gmail.com 07908 540683

Clerk – Michelle Free; rippingalepc@gmail.com Tel 07375 364742

Website – <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Rippingale>

Coronavirus Support. Depending on Government guidance on containing and eradicating the COVID-19 virus, the Village Coronavirus Support Group will continue its operations as long as required. It links with the Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Council support networks. These local volunteers have been assisting vulnerable and elderly residents, who are self-isolating due to COVID-19. This help includes picking up supplies, posting mail, collecting prescriptions, gardening and assistance with pets. The volunteers are also there for a friendly phone call. If you need help or support please contact the volunteer co-ordinators on: 07856986251 and leave your name, address and phone number so one of the volunteers can call you back. Alternatively email: suemcharlton@gmail.com, erica.j.fl@gmail.com and katelewis162@hotmail.co.uk. Additional financial and material support may also be available via Lincolnshire Resilience Forum, via www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coronavirus or 01522 782189. Once again, well done and many thanks to all the volunteers and other residents for their efforts, which are much appreciated.

Coronavirus lock down measures. Due to Government requirements the Tennis Court remains closed until further notice. Additionally, social distancing and cleaning measures should be observed when using the play equipment on the Playing Field. Finally, there should be no meetings of groups on the Playing Field. These measures are in place to assist in combatting the spread of coronavirus.

Scams. Scams take many forms and appear to be on the increase due to the coronavirus lockdown. They can be unsolicited telephone calls detailing spurious offers or requesting bank details etc. Or they can be cold calling at properties, with for example false offers of supposedly required work at exorbitant prices. Police advice is to reject any such soliciting; telephone calls can be blocked through software set up by your provider and any unwarranted or aggressive cold calling should be reported to the Police via 101.

Vacancy for a Parish Councillor. There is currently a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you are interested in contributing to the life of the village, and would like greater information, please contact the Parish Clerk. To be eligible, you must be over 18, on the electoral role and have lived or worked within 3 miles of the Parish for at least 12 months.

Neighbourhood Plan. Work on the Rippingale Neighbourhood Plan continues and liaison on its completion is underway with our consultants. It will be subject to a pre-submission consultation with Village residents, then reviewed by SKDC, before it is sent for independent examination and then a Referendum arranged. This cannot be before May 2021 due to Coronavirus restrictions. Mike Hallas, who as Operations Officer, has been instrumental in formulating the Plan to this stage, has decided to withdraw from the Steering Group. We wish him well and thank him for his great contribution.

Village entrance signposts. The custom-made Village signposts were designed and erected over 15 years ago and after good service, appear to be in need of replacement. The Parish Council is considering new gateway type alternatives as an attractive entrance to the Village.



Placed on both sides of the main entry roads these would visibly highlight early entry into the Village, aiding speed control. Comments on this proposal are welcomed; please forward these to rippingalepc@gmail.com.

Parish Councillor contact details and responsibilities:

Chairman: Cllr Chris Charlton 440986/07908 540683 or chairmanrpc4@gmail.com: Welcome Pack: Rippingale News & Council Newsletter: Neighbourhood Plan: Finance: Grant applications

Cllr Shaun Charlton 07802 170801: Liaison, Row Gardens Allotments: Village Contracts: Key Holder- Jubilee Playing Field

Cllr Erica Field-Lucas 440738/07907 017722: Liaison, Row Gardens Allotments: Defibrillator Maintenance: Rippingale Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Cllr Hayley Fuller 07734 319346: Police Forum Representative; Liaison Feast Organising Committee

Cllr Alan Vaughan 440056/07966 584568: Jubilee Playing Field Maintenance: Neighbourhood Plan: Liaison, Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Jeanne Howard 07738 719400 Liaison, Village Hall Management Committee

Mr Chris Charlton, Chairman

Meetings

Thursday 10 th December General Meeting if required	Thursday 14 th January Budget and Precept Approval	Thursday 11 th February General Meeting
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Meetings to be held in the Village Hall or by Zoom at **7.00 pm** unless otherwise stated. When necessary social distancing and other measures are in place.

Please see the Council Noticeboard and Website for the Agenda and details of any changes.

Latest Planning Applications (view at www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8170):

S20/0677 Application for alterations to loft space to create office space/boardroom and associated works to Old School building 20 High Street - pending

S20/1103 Erection of new detached building at the Willows Care Home - pending

S20/1527 Outline planning permission for one dwelling on land at rear of 155 Station Street – refused.

*Please submit entries by the 14th of the month to the Editor: Jamie Petch at rippingalenews@hotmail.com
Items for the Village Website: Please mark your email 'Website' and send to
SeeParishes.Lincolnshire@gov.uk/Rippingale for T&Cs*