



Spring 2012

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WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL? WWW.RICCALLPARISHCOUNCIL.ORG.UK

# The Riccall Beacon - Spring 2012

## Riccall Snow Patrol



Here they are—some of the members of your friendly team of volunteers that make up 'Riccall Snow Patrol!' You will have seen them around, gritting footpaths on icy nights and clearing snow, so that all community footpaths have stayed reasonably accessible for all residents.

The Parish Council would like to say a huge thank you to the team, who have and continue to turn out in all weathers and temperatures to help the community. Particular thanks go to Rod Wileman and Bob Owens, who have co-ordinated the volunteers on behalf of the Council.

A scheme like this gives everyone a good feeling and shows that Riccall is a real community, with residents that care about one another and will actually take the time and make the effort to put that care into action. Community spirit is certainly not dead in Riccall!

Council Chairman, Cllr Brian Keen said 'We are very proud of our residents. Riccall Snow Patrol has been a great success this winter and only because of the residents that have volunteered and worked hard.'

For further information about Riccall Snow Patrol, or to get involved for next winter, contact Lindsey Ryan.

[lindsey.ryan@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:lindsey.ryan@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Please note that the salt bins in Riccall are intended for use on public footpaths only. Please do not take the grit for personal use, as this obviously limits supplies for the team.**

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## Sad goodbye to old village tree



It was with regret that St Mary's P.C.C had to take the decision to fell the old Copper Beech tree in Riccall churchyard. The Parish Council tree consultant had checked the tree and found that it was suffering from several large Ganodrema fruiting brackets growing from between every buttress root at the stem base. The extent of the decay within the stem was excessive and results confirmed that it was beyond that that could be considered safe. The removal of the tree was therefore recommended and this information was passed on to St Mary's P.C.C.

Priest in charge, Francis Loftus said, 'It was with a mixture of dismay and relief that we received a report on the Copper Beech tree in the graveyard. Dismay because we were aware of the affection that parishioners have for the tree and relief because if it was dangerous, the last thing that we wanted was for someone to be injured (or worse) if it fell. We contacted Selby DC to ensure that we followed the correct procedures and following their inspection of the tree and judgement that it was in poor condition we reluctantly took the decision that it was dangerous and had to be felled. We followed the procedures that were 'laid down' for us. We are actively exploring the possibility of replacing the tree with one or more and again are taking advice to ensure that we do not plant a tree, which may be susceptible to disease still in the ground. As soon as is possible the tree will be replaced.'

## New dog bins—please use them



Lots of you complain to the Council about dog fouling on our footpaths—we do know it can be a problem and we are trying to minimise it. Residents asked for more dog bins and we have put four new ones in around Riccall. The additional ones are now at the end of Kelfield Road (near the bridge), at the end of Northfield Lane, near to the Millennium Green (near the pumping station) and Parsons Lane (the passageway leading to the school). We have existing dog bins on Landing Lane, Riccall Park and at the end of the passage way leading from Main Street to Station Close /Station Rd. Please pick up after your dog—the complainants are often residents whose small child has slipped in dog mess. Thank you to those of you that do always pick up after your dog and to those that don't—please spare a thought for the next small child that might.



## Library for the Regen Centre

Plans to provide a small community library at the Regen Centre are going ahead. The Parish Council and representatives of the Centre have held meetings with NYCC library service and hope to install a small community library of around 150 books. We have had some volunteers that have come forward to run the library but would always welcome more.

**Does anyone have an unwanted bookcase that they would be willing to donate for this??** If so please contact [howard@riccall.co.uk](mailto:howard@riccall.co.uk) or phone Howard Adamson at the Regen Centre on 01757 248849. It is hoped that the library will be able to open a couple of times per week for Riccall residents.

### Contact Details - Riccall Parish Council

#### Chairman 2011/12

Cllr Brian Keen  
Fuchsia Cottage, Kelfield Rd

#### Vice-Chairman 2011/12

Cllr Edward Wilkinson  
25 Viking Drive

#### Members

**Cllr Howard Adamson** -12 Holmes Drive, **Cllr Keith Dawson** - 3 Kelfield Rd, **Cllr John Duggan** -1 Lucerne Close, **Cllr Pippa James** - 2 Church St, **Cllr Ann Kilmartin** - 5 Chapel Lane, **Cllr Mark Nuttall**, 1 King Rudding Close, **Cllr Keith Rookes** - 9 Chapel Walk, **Cllr Steve Sharp** - 33 York Rd, **Cllr Rupert Somers-Joce** - 9 King Rudding Close,

**Mrs Lindsey Ryan—Clerk/RFO**

**Regen Centre, Landing Lane,  
Riccall YO19 6PW**

**Tel/Fax: (01757) 249222**

**[clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)**





# Safer Neighbourhood Policing

## News from NY Police....



There have been thefts of heating oil from tanks across Selby District. If you would like an information leaflet about ways to minimise the possibility of oil thefts, please contact Riccall Parish Council.



Following concerns raised by West Yorkshire Police relating to the vulnerability of Euro cylinder style locks used mainly on uPVC doors, North Yorkshire Police has issued advice on the following link:

<http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8291>

A typical distraction burglary occurs when a male offender knocks on the door of an address and introduces himself as "from the Water Board" and gains access to the house. The elderly victim asks the male for ID who states that he is in a rush and does not have any ID on him. Once inside he makes his way to the kitchen, rolls his sleeves over his hands and turns on the taps, telling the victim to wait until the water turns green. Whilst distracting the victim in the kitchen, an unknown offender enters the house and steals cash.



Since the late 1980's all utility companies (water, gas, electric) are no longer 'boards' and no employee will refer to the company as a "board", e.g. water board, gas board etc. Any person calling at doors claiming to be from a utility "board" will be a distraction offender. If this happens to you, do not let the person enter your property, call 999 and, if possible, obtain a description, registration of vehicle etc.



All persons working for utility companies, or contractors working on behalf of utility companies, will definitely have identification with them and will have a phone number that you can ring to check their identity. Please do not be afraid to ask for ID.

Help put a stop to bogus callers and unwanted visitors and feel safer in your home by joining a Nominated Neighbour Scheme. The scheme seeks the help of neighbours or relatives to check whether unexpected callers are genuine, especially those calling on more vulnerable members of the community. NY Police have developed a Nominated Neighbour pack that can be downloaded from

[www.northyorkshirepolice.uk/neighbour](http://www.northyorkshirepolice.uk/neighbour)



Residents are advised that they can download software that will report the physical location of a stolen laptop or mobile device. The software can also take a photograph using its camera. These work when you connect to the internet. Examples of such software include Prey (for Windows, MacOSX, Linux, Android) and Find-MyiPhone (for Apple devices). **Think ahead-** you must install any such software before your laptop or mobile device is taken.

## New Councillor for Riccall PC



Welcome to new Councillor Mark Nuttall, who joined the Parish Council in January. Mark currently works for West Yorkshire Fire Service as a Fire Safety Inspector, having retired from operational duties over 30 years. He enjoys sports, Tae Kwondo, trekking and has been an active fund raiser for cancer research and children's charities over the years. Mark hopes to be an active participant in the conservation of Riccall and help to secure its future for the next generation.



## Westfield Sports ground

The sports ground is now complete and will undergo some dressing and maintenance work before it is able to be opened later this year. The pitch will be playable for juniors from autumn this year and we will hold an opening event in September, to open the new area to the public. The woodland walk at the side of Westfield will be open in the spring, after further planting has taken place.



## Better BMX facilities?



We are just about to start working with a group of young people in Riccall, to look at current facilities and future projects. The group that we are working with at present are interested in extending the skate park, in order to provide better facilities for BMX riders. Although, no decisions have been taken by the Council at the moment, we are investigating designs and getting some professional

**YOUTH GROUP**

quotes. If you are interested in hearing about designs or being part of the group, please contact Lindsey Ryan [lindsey.ryan@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:lindsey.ryan@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)

## Residents surveys—thanks



Thank you so much to those of you that participated in the residents survey. We are currently evaluating your comments and if you have asked us a specific question, then we will get back to you shortly. We will share the summary of results with you in the next Riccall Beacon and will use those results to help form our business plan for the community.

If you asked to be part of an email group—we will contact you shortly with details.

## Looking for community artists??

Remember when we painted the 'Vikings and Swords' grid at Riccall Park (designed by John Battye of Riccall Primary School)? Neil Spilman, our local artist, is going to revamp it shortly as it has faded over the winter and he is looking for some adult helpers. Fancy a couple of hours of spray painting?



Contact Lindsey Ryan at the Council.

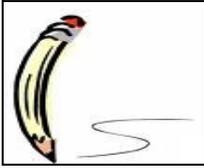


Also, we are still looking for someone who might be interested in helping us to design a Council Crest for Riccall? Again if you are interested—please do contact us! We would love it to be a Riccall resident that designs this!



# Community Notice Board.....

## Did you have something to add?



This is your section of the Beacon, providing an opportunity for community groups to submit articles about their group and about what it does. Attempts have been made to reach most groups via email but apologies if we have missed yours. Any community group in Riccall can submit an article but we do ask that they are kept to a maximum of around 200 words, so that we can be inclusive and fair to all groups. Ideally please email the article to [clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk) The Beacon will be produced four times per year. Many thanks for all of your articles to date. Remaining deadlines for 2012 are **20th April, 29th June and 5th October.**

Lindsey Ryan - Editor

WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL?

## Riccall Community Archive



We're busy having a sort out of the increased amount of donated local material.

Cataloguing, mounting display material and digitally filing new material all take time and we need more helpers who can be trained in any aspect of our interest which appeals.

Contact Katy on 248813 if you want to visit and see what's involved.



## Egg Rolling



# EASTER MONDAY 9TH APRIL 2012

## PRIZE FOR THE BEST DECORATED EGG

**FANCY DRESS  
COMPETITION!  
RAFFLE!  
GAMES!**



**DROP OFF EGGS BETWEEN  
11AM-12NOON  
JUDGING AT 12.30PM  
EGG ROLLING 1PM  
ENTRY FEE £1  
FREE CHOCOLATE EGG FOR EACH  
ENTRY**

**BAR OPEN FROM 11AM - FOOD AVAILABLE**



# Community Notice Board.....



WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL?

**WHAT SORT OF A GROUP** ..... meets and liaises on a regular basis with MPs, MEPs, Local Authorities, Regional Planners, Government Ministers and Advisors, the DFT, Network Rail, Top Rail Industry Representatives & Contractors, Consultants, Train Operators ..... and more. And has made presentations in both Westminster and the European Parliament in Brussels?

**ANSWER:**

A volunteer group driven by a passion to see the former rail line linking Skipton (North Yorkshire) with Colne (Lancashire) reopened as part of a much-needed new trans-Pennine route for passengers and freight ..... and catalyst for business & economic growth, job creation, regeneration, connectivity, social mobility and non-car tourism.

That group is *SELRAP*. The Skipton-East Lancashire Rail Action Partnership has 2,000 members, supporters, affiliated groups & supporting organisations. And sees this imaginative and ground breaking scheme as a pilot for further strategic rail re-openings.

Support for *SELRAP's* campaign is little short of astonishing and, at the time of writing, includes 176 MPs, 44 UK MEPs, 101 Peers and 445 Councils across the North of England.

You can help this imaginative campaign by joining *SELRAP*. Membership costs just £5.00 (concessions £3.00) per year. Membership Secretary: Derek Jennings: Tel 01282 690411.

For more information on *SELRAP*, visit: [www.selrap.org.uk](http://www.selrap.org.uk)

Andy Shackleton, Liaison Officer *SELRAP* Tel: 01282 814358

## Learning to play, Playing to learn



The staff at Riccall Pre-school create a fun and stimulating learning environment for the children. The team are committed to providing learning opportunities within the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum for children aged between 2 years 6 months to 5 years. The pre-school offers a supportive and friendly environment. The children are continually learning whilst playing; with toys as well as through role play, outdoor play and creative activities. In the next few months they are organising a number of activities where parent, carers and grandparents can all be involved.



**March 5-9 is World Book Day** and the children will be encouraged to bring their favourite books to read in the sessions during the week. Parents are also invited in to share books with their children.

**Saturday, March 17 is Dads Saturday** where Dads and male carers are invited to come along and help the children to make cards and gifts for Mothers' Day. There will be a cost for this event to cover the cost of materials. If you would like to attend any of the above events or know more, then please contact any of the team on the number below.

[www.riccallpreschool.org.uk](http://www.riccallpreschool.org.uk)

For more information and a prospectus, please call 01757 249792

**OFSTED Inspection Oct 2010—OUTSTANDING in ALL AREAS!**





# Community Notice Board.....

## Regen Centre / Space Base



Last year we set ourselves a fundraising target of £24,132 (£2,011 for every month of 2011). A combination of grants, fundraising events and donations by individuals, local groups and businesses enabled us to reach this target. Also, in the last three months of 2010, we raised £36,250 through the lottery and Key Fund Yorkshire.

To raise over £60,000 in fifteen months is a massive achievement. The money is helping us with our on-going refurbishment programme, further details of which will be announced on our website [www.riccall.co.uk](http://www.riccall.co.uk)



Many thanks to all those who have been involved in our fundraising efforts and to all those who have contributed. We have set ourselves a fundraising target of £12,000 for 2012.

Please let us know if you would like to contribute (01757) 248849.

### Space Base

Space Base Out of School club is now part of the Riccall Regen Centre and provides you with an 'out of school' service for children up to 11 years old from 7.30am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 6pm during term time. The service is also available most weekdays during school holidays. Space Base is Ofsted registered and has friendly, experienced and fully trained staff. Home cooked food is available.

(01757) 249669



WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL?



## Windmill Nursery

Our friendly and welcoming Windmill Nursery is part of the Riccall Regen Centre and has just celebrated its 10th birthday! We have spaces available for children from 3 months to 5 years of age and offer a small homely environment in a secure rural setting. Our staff are experienced and highly trained and we are Ofsted 'Good' in all areas inspected. Our rates are very competitive and include nappies and home cooked food. (01757) 249527

## Riccall Tot Stop

For mums, dads & carers of pre-school children & babies

Held at the Regen Centre, Landing Lane, Riccall

Every Tuesday 1pm - 3pm in term time

A well equipped playroom & outside

play area for the children

whilst the grown ups can chat & socialise!

A warm & friendly welcome awaits all new members from

Riccall & surrounding areas.

For further information please call Sue Hill 01757 249061





## Royal Riccall 1st–4th June



The Dickensian Fayre proved to be successful again this year, the weather was kind to us and the fairground rides in the Hare & Hounds car park added to the atmosphere.

The Christmas tree competition proved very popular and there were some wonderful trees but the winner was the Carnival Committee with their “cup cake” tree. The raffle prizes were won by Jill Taylor of York and Mr Smith of Hollicarrs. Thank you to everyone that helped us on the day with the putting up and taking down of the marquees,

the running of the stalls and to everyone that attended the event. A big Thank you once again to David Finnigan for all of his help. £900 was raised.

Have you seen the Snowdrops, Daffodils and Crocus around the village, which we bought with money raised from last years Dickensian Fayre?

See our website for photos and also updates about the Carnival.

We are now preparing for this year's Carnival – Royal Riccall. It is earlier than normal this year, 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> June to allow it to coincide with the Queens Jubilee.

So, now is the time for you to tell us what you would like to see over the weekend. We are open to suggestions and ideas. Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> will be at the Regen Centre, followed in the evening by a Barn Dance. Tickets for the Barn Dance will be available from the Regen Centre, the Post Office or by phoning 0775 258 3525. Tickets are £10 including supper, and profits will go to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Sunday will be the open air church service at the Millennium Green, followed by the picnic on the Village Green. Monday evening, we are hoping to light the Beacon at Riccall Park. We are awaiting confirmation about what time we should do this to fit in with Beacons that are being lit nationally. Again, we would love to hear your suggestions about what we could do on the Monday evening to fit in with the lighting of the Beacon?? Please come forward with your ideas—this is a community decision and we want to hear from you. Brian and Karen Keen (01757) 249403

Riccall Carnival Committee



## Free loft and cavity wall insulation?



Free loft and cavity wall insulation is available to people over 70, through the government's Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) scheme - but there are still many people who are unaware that they are eligible.

Owned by York and North Yorkshire local authorities, with nearly twenty years experience in the environmental sector, you could contact Yorkshire Energy Partnership to find out more. If you'd like more information about our organisation, please do visit our website at [www.yorkshireenergypartnership.org.uk](http://www.yorkshireenergypartnership.org.uk)



**Hold on to your heat**  
Find deals and grants for insulating your property

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# Diamond Jubilee Past

*With great thanks to Richard Moody*

## INTRODUCTION

The idea was put forward at the January Parish Council Meeting of using this issue of The Riccall Beacon not only to look forward to the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee, but also to include what had happened locally at the only other Diamond Jubilee this country has experienced – that of Queen Victoria in 1897. No difficulty was anticipated in doing the research. Selby Library has all the copies of the Selby Times on microfilm or micro-fiche from 1870 until 1985, except for three years which are missing. Unfortunately, one of those missing years is – have you guessed? – 1897.

Perhaps the best way round is to publish the account of the earlier Golden Jubilee for Riccall in 1887. Many of the same people would be about, so it was likely to follow a similar pattern. (The same might be said of the Golden and Diamond Jubilee celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II in Riccall in 2002 and 2012.) Then details of celebrations for other nearby places in 1897 might help to fill the gap, gleaned from sources which do not seem to have survived in Riccall.

## **THE GOLDEN JUBILEE AT RICCALL**

from THE SELBY TIMES, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1887

The Jubilee of our gracious Queen was kept in this village on Tuesday last week with great success and remarkable unanimity. A most liberal subscription, including £10 from Lord Wenlock, £5 from C.Thelluson, Esq., £3 3s. each from the Rev.J.M.Barlow and C.T.Newstead, Esq., together with many valuable and useful gifts in kind, such as hams, beef, tarts, butter, &c., enables the committee to invite all the parishioners without exception to tea in the schoolroom. At two o'clock, the service appointed for the day was held in the church, which was well filled, and afterwards the children, about 220 in number, sat down to tea; then came all the rest of the parish, 150 sitting down together, and gradually giving place to those who were waiting; their wants being attended to most efficiently by many willing helpers. It is calculated that altogether fully 800 persons were provided for. The supply was most liberal in quantity and excellent in quality, and reflected the highest credit on the many kind friends who furnished it. In the evening there was dancing in the Recreation Ground to the fine band of the York Volunteers, and cricket and other games were played. A little before ten the band departed, and, having given hearty cheers for the Queen, the people dispersed, after spending a day which was remarkable for the orderly proceedings and the genial and hearty good nature and kindly feelings which distinguished it.

## **THE 1897 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN BRAYTON**

from BRAYTON PARISH MAGAZINE for JULY 1897

There is a full run of Parish Magazines for Brayton from the first issue in 1875 through to the First World War. As far as is known, the Riccall Anglicans cannot boast a run like that. In fact the Brayton Anglicans can't do any boasting either, because theirs have been held privately in Methodist hands in Riccall all this century! The Vicar of Brayton gives credit to The Selby Times for this account.

In genuine Queen's weather on Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, was celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. At 2.30pm the children of Brayton assembled on the green, and were each presented with a Jubilee Medal. Then, preceded by the banner (which was made for the last Jubilee) and the Union Jack, a procession was formed of the children, inhabitants, Parish Council, and the Clergy, and proceeded to the Church, where a short service was conducted by the Revs.Thos.Cheese and James Thornton. On returning to the Green two verses of the National Anthem were sung, after which the children were regaled with an excellent tea. Then the whole of the inhabitants took tea together. The remainder of the evening was spent in various amusements, to the enjoyment of which the Selby Town Band materially contributed. The sports took place in Mr.W.Armstrong's field, kindly lent for the occasion. No more pleasurable or satisfactory day has ever been remembered in the village.

# Diamond Jubilee Past

## 1897 DIAMOND JUBILEE MUGS at SELBY SCHOOLCHILDREN

*The following quotations come from entries in the Log Books of the Selby Wesleyan Day Schools in James Street. .*

### 1897 June 18<sup>th</sup> Infant School Log Book:

Mr. Cheesman, one of the tradesmen of the town, presented each child with a mug this morning in Commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

### 1897 June 22<sup>nd</sup> Upper School Log Book:

Two days' holiday for Jubilee celebrations. The whole country was 'en fete', the 20<sup>th</sup> June being the 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign. In Selby, the whole of the children were entertained in a large tent in the Bowling Green. Afterwards, there were races for both boys and girls.

## THE DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS at RICCALL

*as recorded in The Goole Times of June 25th, 1897*

*After all the earlier paragraphs were researched and prepared for the Beacon to compensate for the absence of the Selby Times for that year, an account of Riccall's Diamond Jubilee celebration was found in the pages of the Goole Times, held in Goole Library.*

RICCALL. The Accession Sunday services were duly carried out in a creditable manner. They were fully choral, and were attended by good congregations. The Rev. J. R. Farrow, vicar, preached two excellent sermons. On Tuesday the village was gaily decorated with flags, etc., and formed a pretty sight. The children rode about the village on lorries, kindly provided by Mrs. Atlay, Miss Daniel, Messrs. Bradley, Dixon, Longfield, Taylor, Romans, Riley and Fidler. There were three prizes awarded for the general appearance of harness, etc., and they were allotted as follows:- 1<sup>st</sup>. prize; J. W. Powell (owner, Mr. Taylor, Riccall Bridge Farm); 2<sup>nd</sup>, G. Simpson (owner, Mr. A. Riley, Riccall Grange); 3<sup>rd</sup>, H. Golton (owner, Mrs. Atlay, Wheel Hall Farm). Messrs. L. Simpson, T. Bell, and W. Fidler were the judges, and they found it a difficult matter to allocate the awards. Their decisions, however, gave universal satisfaction. At 1.30 the Rev. J. R. Farrow (vicar) in preparing to plant a lime tree on Stock's Hill, said he must acknowledge his gratitude to the Parish Council for kindly relieving him of all anxiety as regards the celebration of this Jubilee. The Council deserved the thanks of the whole parish for their work, not only for that day, but also for their general work throughout. He hoped the tree would flourish. He then duly planted the tree, when the National Anthem was sung. Mr. L. Simpson proposed a vote of thanks to the rev, gentleman, and Mr. W. Daniel seconded. The vicar briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the procession then reformed and marched on to Pinfold Hill, where another lime tree was planted, this time by Mr. W. Dixon, chairman of the Parish Council, who said he hoped the young men and maidens would remember the day, and remain loyal subjects to the Throne, and that at some future time the Parish Council would provide seats under the trees. The National Anthem was again sung. The trees are the gift of Mr. T. Stokes, of Thirsk. The procession then went round the village, preceded by the councillors, the National Anthem and "Rule Britannia" being sung at intervals along the route. The school was reached about three p.m., when the children sat down to an excellent tea, a great majority of whom were using the mugs kindly presented by Messrs. Cheesman, of Selby, and which are fully appreciated by the children. About 500 adults were accommodated in the schoolroom, and everybody will remember the Diamond Jubilee. Thanks are due to the ladies who provided the tea. There was a succession of races and dancing in the Recreation Ground in the evening.

*Some of the senior residents remember 'Stock's Hill', where the Rev. J. Farrow planted the first tree, as an old name for the Village Green. It would be an obvious place for the village stocks in times of yore! This is the tree which is regarded as the natural village link with local celebrations for the 1897 Jubilee. It continues as a focus for Village Carnivals and Dickensian Fairs, and is illuminated each Christmas.*



# Riccall Neighbourhood Watch



The Annual General Meeting of Riccall NHW is to be held in the Village Institute on Wednesday evening the 18th April and commencing at 7.30pm. The evening's programme will be similar to the last two years, commencing with the formal business and followed by an opportunity for the many Riccall village activity groups to talk about their interests, exhibit and recruit additional followers.

The Riccall NHW group is still very active but does require additional helpers particularly to coordinate the new housing development areas in our village. There is still a vacancy for a Chairman to conduct our meetings and direct the activity of our local NHW—in accordance with our agreed constitution.

All Riccall residents are welcome to attend, to join and hold office with the proviso that they support the NHW principles. Riccall groups that are interested in participating should contact our secretary to agree a space and time slot for a short presentation.

Your local contacts are:- Secretary—Anne Bell 248909, Treasurer—Eddie Pearce 248355 and Village Co-ordinator—Gordon Neal 248222

**Coffee mornings at Riccall Chapel** are held on Tuesday mornings as follows: 8th March Ladies' Guild, 15th March St Mary's Church, 22nd March St Leonards Hospice support group, 29th March Riccall Bowling Club, 5th April Methodist Church, 12th April Darby & Joan, 19th April St Mary's Church, 26th April Riccall Carnival, 3rd May Methodist Church, 10th May Ladies' Guild, 17th May St Mary's Church, 24th May Riccall Carnival. Please come along and join in.

## Riccallish Allsorts

This May, Riccallish Allsorts present the modern classic comedy 'The Odd Couple' by Neil Simon. This is the author's female version and takes a very funny and very female perspective on the original story. Shows will be on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th May. Tickets will go on sale at the Regen Centre from April. For more information, contact Ken Davison on 249820



## Fish and Chip Supper anyone?



Hold a Fish and Chip supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives on Friday 18th May 2012. For more information or to request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email [fishandchips@spinal.co.uk](mailto:fishandchips@spinal.co.uk) or visit [www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips](http://www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips)

Be part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.



## Field Garden Allotments

**Call Brian Keen on 249403 to register your interest.**

We do have a waiting list for gardens but there will be vacancies in every field in the spring so contact **Brian Keen** and book a plot.

Existing tenants should be able to get some well rotted manure in the next month within our field, at the top left of Northfield Lane. Tenants please watch out for the delivery and a small charge for each barrow filled is made to cover our costs.





# Nature in Riccall



It is midwinter as I write this plea to remember wildlife struggling to live in and around our country village. They urgently need regular bird food or household small food scraps; leave your garden rubbish heaped and lawns un-mown until mid March to give shelter and food to small creatures (insects-butterflies-field mice—hedgehogs—frogs—toads). It is always sad to see the felling of village trees. The Lands Charity,



Photo: Common Toad (by Carl Raven) www.uksafari.com

over the last 15 years has tried to balance the destruction of field hedges and trees by planting over a kilometre of new hedges and almost 100 trees, all financed by grants from outside bodies and a few generous village donors. This work and maintenance is done by a small team of willing residents, now desperate for volunteer help to plant the woodland walk next to the new junior football facilities. Please contact Paddy on 249201 if you want to get involved.

Riccall Lands Charity—Protecting the village heritage

Did you know that in 1884, Riccall was awarded 26 acres of land dedicated for the benefit of residents, to be managed by local Trustees? About 50 years ago, they registered the land as a charity (Charity No 233721) to get accurate advice, security and limit taxation. Demands have changed and more land is now set aside for recreational use and less for Field Gardens (allotments), a newly created nature field commemorates the millennium, the rest is rented to raise funds.

Few villages are lucky enough to have such a large area of land open to residents and carefully managed to improve our environment and support our diminishing wildlife. Field Gardens for 80 tenants occupies 6 acres; 8 acres is for recreation and is leased to Riccall Parish Council; 4.5 acres is public walks and nature areas and 6.5 acres are rented.



## The Friends of Skipwith Common www.friendsofskipwithcommon.org.uk

**Monday 5th March**  
7.30pm



**Robin Arundale from the Wolds Barn Owl Group talks about the Barn Owl.** Come and find out more about one of our favourite local birds. Tickets £4 include refreshments and are available from Jackie (01757) 703305 or on the door

Skipwith Village Hall, York Rd, Skipwith



**Wednesday 7th March**  
1.30pm



**Bombs and Lizards**—a Selby Health Walk. Richard from FOSC will lead you on an easy ramble on level, hard surfaced paths around the WWII bomb-storage area, now a haven for wildlife. 2.5 miles. Dogs on short leads only,

Meet in King Ridding Lane car park, off the A19.

Grid reference: SE 643374

**Wednesday 14th March**  
10am

### Access Improvements

Today we'll be helping to replace a stile with a kissing gate to improve accessibility on the Skipwith Explorer yellow waymarked trail.

Meet on the Common where Sandy Lane joins Common Rd.

Grid reference: SE 660378



**PLEASE WEAR STOUT BOOTS OR WELLIES AND BRING WATERPROOFS, SNACKS AND DRINKS TO ALL WALKS AND PRACTICAL TASKS.**

**CONTACT: E-MAIL: frskipcom@btinternet.com / Tel:01757 703305**