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IN TOUCH



The Magazine of Barkston, Belton, Honington and Syston

Rector	Revd. Stuart Hadley (rectorsouthcliff@outlook.com) www.southcliffchurches.uk	07398390549
Editor: Advertising:	Mrs Wendy Card Mr John Jackson	01400 250462 01400 250021

Issue 349

August/September 2020

Barkston and Syston Village Hall Regular Bookings

<u>Monday</u>	Parent and Toddler Group	10-00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
	Short Mat Bowls	2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Dance Class	Noon - 4.00 p.m.
<u>Wednesday</u>	Dance Class	Noon - 9.30 p.m.
<u>Thursday</u>	Yoga	10.00 a.m. - Noon
	Short Mat Bowls	2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
<u>Friday</u>	Move it or lose it	9.30a.m—10.15 a.m
<u>Saturday</u>	Dance Class	9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides meet weekly. For more information contact girlguiding.org.uk.

The Lincs Trust for Nature Conservation meet every second Friday of the month (Oct - April) 7.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m..

Bookings for private functions - Carol Bradford 01400 250744

County Council Representatives

Ray Wootten is County Councillor for Barkston, Belton and Syston Parishes. (Tel: 01476 400183 or e-mail cllr.wootten@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Post Office, St Nicholas Close, Barkston

Mondays 9.00am—3.00pm Thursdays 9.00 a.m. - 12 noon
Contact Tel No: 01636 704516

Mobile Library dates

The library will be in West Street between 12.30—13.00 on the following Mondays,

Items for inclusion in the next issue of 'In Touch'

Please send to Wendy Card by **15th September 2020**
Telephone 01400 250462

or e-mail alan.c.card@btinternet.com

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Sam & Mike welcome you to THE STAG
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 Tel: 01400 250363
 Food served Tuesday - Friday 12.00—2.00 pm., 5-30—8.30 pm.
 Saturday 12.00—2.30 pm, 6.00—8.30 pm. Sunday 12.00—3.00 pm.
 Take away available Tues—Thursday 5.30—8.30 pm.
 Fish, Burger or Chicken BBQ Melt & Chips £6.50.

South Cliff Villages Group
NOT FROM THE RECTORY



Oh, Mr Porter, what shall I do? I want to go to Birmingham but here I am at Crewe!

The government's advice has until recently been not to travel by train unless absolutely necessary but happily it is now relaxing and allowing for a resumption of leisure travel such as we enjoyed last autumn when we were booked to go from Grantham to Knaresborough via Leeds but due to the cancellation of the Leeds train were diverted via York so nothing as disastrous as Marie Lloyd had to deal with. The onward train headed north out of York but very soon left the East Coast main line and took the scenic route to Leeds via Harrogate passing in the process the site of the Civil War battle of 1644 at Marston Moor complete with its Grade 11 listed signal box of 1910 which controls the Marston Lane level crossing.

Knaresborough with its ruined castle sits above the River Nidd and the valley is crossed by the Victorian railway bridge which forms a grand back drop for any photograph. There is a pleasant river side walk and in the sunshine of a warm autumn day the opportunity was taken to stroll along with an ice cream in hand.

The Dower House hotel is a sister hotel to the Angel and Royal in Grantham and it was a short walk from the hotel through the grounds of the parish church to the town's railway station for the onward train the next day to Harrogate.

The attraction here were the Turkish Baths restored to their full Victorian splendour and offering 'the relaxation experience of a lifetime' with users switching between the three heated chambers and the ice-cold water of the plunge pool before a final period of relaxation in the 'Frigidarium'.

With any impurities of the body washed away, what better way to celebrate than with lunch at Betty's and a 'Fat Rascal' to take back for tea time!

A walk in the Valley Gardens beckoned with the trees looking their autumnal best on a glorious day of a 'Little St Luke's Summer'.

So much for the Bridge and the Bath but what about the Bear? Well we are talking serious bear sized teddy which we had seen sat in the window of the Martin House [children's hospice at Boston Spa] charity shop in the Market Square at Knaresborough. He – William – was still there the next day so in we went and rescued him, and then had the task of bringing him home while explaining to the ticket inspector that no we didn't have a ticket for the young man even though he was hoping for his own seat on the return train!

The Archdeacon would have been pleased to note the church newsletter is called 'Bridges' and features the railway bridge over the River Nidd: the church's business is so often about making bridges to connect or perhaps to re-connect people and communities. In a homily delivered at the Peterborough diocesan choir festival the Reverend Richard Coles recalled his childhood years as a boy chorister before he drifted away from the church. Many years later however he found himself sat in St Mary's episcopal cathedral in Edinburgh for a service of Choral Evensong and it was hearing the familiar music and the familiar chants that provided him with the 'bridge' he needed to cross to return to the Church of England and to the ministry for which today he is well known on both TV and Radio.

Every good wish.

Stuart Hadley [Rector of the South Cliff Benefice]

FROM THE REGISTERS

**Barkston
Holy Baptism**
8th March 2020

Owen Harrison Clitheroe

Rest In Peace
22nd May 2020

Ralph George Marshall

PLAYING FIELD

We have recently had a spate of vandalism and attempted theft at the Playing Field. If anyone notices anything suspicious could they please phone the police.

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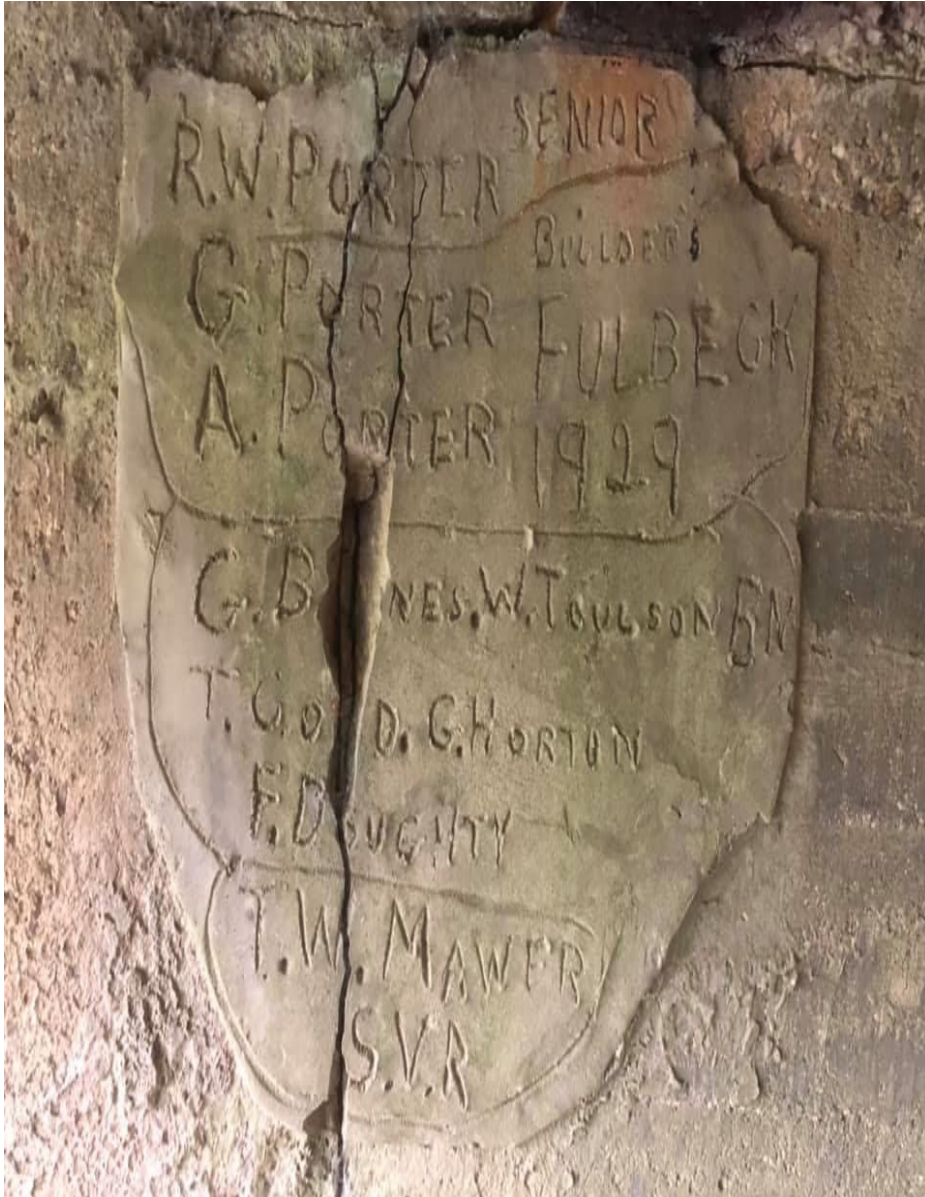
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BECK BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION 1929

With grateful thanks to Tom Armitage we now have a record of the villagers who helped to provide a bridge over the Beck.



THE STAG

Here at The Stag we thought it was very important to open as soon as we could after the government enforced closure in March. Before re-opening, we spent five days absorbing all guidelines, writing our risk assessment and contacting the local authority to ensure we had fully covered all guidelines before opening our doors on Saturday 4th July.

We have successfully opened and have settled into our “new normal” with less tables, staggered bookings, undressed tables that are sanitised ready to be used upon arrival of all customers. We only bring cutlery, napkins and condiments after ordering and everything is placed at the end of the table for customers to distribute. We have chosen not to wear PPE, but we are keeping our distance. Our customers have all been great by arriving on time and respecting our new way of service. So far Saturday nights and Sunday lunch have been our busiest service times. Trade during the week, lunchtime especially, is slow but we are hoping these will get busier. We re-opened with a small menu but that is now complimented with a selection of specials that change often.

Food service: Tuesday-Thursday 12-2:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm,
Friday & Saturday 12-2:00pm, 6-8:30pm,
Sunday 12-3:00pm.

Drinks service: Tuesday-Thursday 12-2:30pm, 5:00-10:00pm,
Friday 12-2:30pm, 5:00-11:00pm,
Saturday 12-11:00pm and Sunday 12-10:00pm*
(*until 30th Sept).

Sam and Mike

BARKSTON SYSTON BELTON HONINGTON AND CARLTON SCROOP ANNUAL PRODUCE AND CRAFT SHOW

The Committee have, with regret due to the Covid 19 situation, decided to cancel this year's show.

We look forward to seeing you at the next year's show and sorry for any disappointment.

Exhibitors who won cups at last year's show - I will collect them in due course.

Vicki Strawson
Secretary

BARKSTON AND SYSTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on 9th March. All members of the Parish Council were present, together with Councillor Ray Wootten (County Council). District Councillors Mrs Rosemary Kaberry-Brown and Ian Stokes sent apologies. There were no members of the public present.

The Clerk, as usual, updated members on the progress with various matters in connection with roads and footpaths, which had been raised at previous meetings. In particular, it was noted that action had been taken to clear the blocked drain causing flooding near The Stag. The Minnetts Hill/Church Street area was, however, still a problem, and a reminder is to be sent for more work at that location.

Councillor Steve Elnor reported a notification from the County Council that they were exploring the provision of a bridle bridge over the River Witham near the stepping stones. He said that there were dangers involved with horses crossing the railway line, and would be in discussion with the Council over this. The County had advised that they were not intending to remove the stepping stones, rather to supplement them with the bridge for the benefit of riders. Formal consultation would take place should the proposals proceed.

Car parking at the end of West Street was a concern, causing a hazard and damage to the verges.

An update in regard to the Community Speedwatch scheme was given – the passive signs had been put up at various points on the A607 through the village, training for some volunteers had taken place, and the equipment necessary (speed guns, signs, hi-viz jackets and a traffic counter) had been purchased. In regard to a query from a local resident, the Council confirmed that they had had all relevant facts to hand before making a decision on the scheme to be used. There was a commitment by the Police to give attention to speeding through the village, within available staffing resources.

In regard to the parking issues on Church Street, mainly at school times, it was noted that following checks by the Police and civil enforcement officers, it had been established that there was minimal parking on the double yellow lines, although there was still some parking on the bus stop opposite the school, and on the stop near The Stag. This was confirmed by several Councillors. It had been suggested that one stop in each direction could be removed (those mentioned above), which would have the effect of removing the parking problem. However, the Council considered that the stops had been located where they were currently for the benefit of various parts of the

BARKSTON & SYSTON CRICKET CLUB

The 2020 season is fast becoming a season that never was, with no games, no junior practice and no money.

Due to the Covid 19 saga our league has cancelled all games until the Government allow them, which is now looking at a possible start of 2nd August; if so this will mean six games against more local teams than normal.

The Junior side of things is an even bigger mess, with parents paying money to the ECB and then training being cancelled. So far I cannot give the parents any more information than they have already been given from the ECB, if they have received any, and if they have feel free to pass it on as I have had nothing.

The club has continued to look after the square and ground and therefore, if we get the go ahead, we can play within a couple of weeks. By doing this we have obviously picked up expenses along the way and with no money coming in they are worrying times with Insurance, League Fees, fertiliser and petrol costs mounting up. We ran a “spacehive” giving page. We had a target of £200 which if we reached the ECB would give £100 and this was matched by SKDC. This was well supported by the players and the target was reached. The disappointing part was the reaction from the village and local business, even with an internet media campaign on facebook, twitter and the Barkston Village page.

If anyone would like to sponsor the balls for the six games we are looking to play please contact me. The club tries to keep playing costs to a level that everyone can afford so most of our income comes from Junior cricket (we only receive £5 per child for all stars from ECB), drinks and food sales after training sessions and sponsorship, so our income this year has been nothing.

Hopefully on to better times next season when the current one has expired. We are at the moment working on new sponsorship packages for the 2021 season. If any local business or person would like more information please contact me.

Nigel Parker Nigel.d.parker@btinternet.com 07947754361

YOGA - FREE SESSIONS AVAILABLE.

I am embarking on a teacher training course in Yoga. Please contact me via Text 07920096439 or email met57rach@gmail.com. These meetings will be carried out at Social Distance or Zoom.

Rachel Metcalfe

Barkston and Syston Parish Council continued.

Comments have continued to be made in response to planning consultations from SKDC. The Parish Council have finally taken ownership of the picnic area on Station Road, and arrangements are in hand for its refurbishment. A quotation for the cutting of the Burial Ground hedge has been accepted.

Again, as a result of the coronavirus crisis, commencement of the Community Speedwatch scheme was halted. Since then, the trainer has left the Road Safety Partnership and has not so far been replaced. This has unfortunately meant that although the scheme could otherwise proceed with appropriate safeguarding, it cannot because there are insufficient trained volunteers. The Clerk to our partner authority, Belton & Manthorpe Parish Council, is currently liaising with the Road Safety Partnership and parishioners will be kept informed.

A recent response has been received from LCC in regard to the issue of parking on bus stops, following the Parish Council's agreement in March that the four stops in Church Street should remain. The County Council supported the Parish Council's decision and had agreed to provide appropriate road markings and signage in an attempt to prevent parking on the stops, which was illegal. This action would, it was hoped, assist in enforcement of the regulations.

The next meeting is scheduled for 14th September, although it has not yet been decided whether this will be a meeting in person, or 'virtual'.

Malcolm Hall
Clerk to Barkston and Syston Parish Council

IN TOUCH

The Coronavirus 19 pandemic has caused problems for all of us during lock-down, be it in health, self-isolation, emotional concerns for those close to us or financial worries. Wendy, Alan and I would like to extend our best wishes to all of you and if there is anything that In Touch can do to help through publication please don't hesitate to contact Wendy. The next publication deadline is 15th September.

Fortunately the magazine is in a sound financial position and therefore as a gesture of support to local business, Church PCC's and the Barkston and Syston Parish Council we will not be charging for advertisements or requesting financial support for the financial year 2020/2021.

John Jackson

village. It was agreed to object to the removal of any of the stops.

The trees to fill in the gaps in the Burial Ground hedge were expected shortly, and the Clerk was asked to remind the Commonwealth War Graves Commission that the ordered sign had not yet been received.

In regard to the picnic area, the Clerk said that he had now heard from the County Council that the formalities in connection with the transfer of the land to the Parish Council were nearly complete. It was agreed that when the transfer deed was ready, the Chair and Vice-Chairman be authorised to execute it.

The Council discussed reports of fly tipping and dumping in the area. Several incidents had been reported to SKDC, and after discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the appropriate Portfolio Holder at SKDC to request that further action was required, including an extension to the opening hours of the civic amenity site at Alexandra Road, Grantham. It was also agreed to contact the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils to request that publicity be given to this issue, with the idea of a more unified response to a county wide problem.

The next meeting is on MONDAY 11th MAY 2020 at 7.45 pm at the VILLAGE HALL. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Council, and will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting.

Barkston and Syston Parish Council update.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council scheduled for the 11th May did not take place owing to restrictions on meetings being held in person imposed by the Coronavirus Act. This meeting would normally elect the Chair and Vice-Chair for the ensuing year, but the above Act extended the appointments until May 2021.

A 'virtual' meeting of the Parish Council was held on 6th July, via 'Zoom', to consider the financial update and matters connected to the Annual Audit for the year 2019/20. Seven of the nine Councillors attended but unfortunate technical difficulties prevented two Councillors being present, and apologies were accepted. Following consideration, the Council agreed to certify as an exempt authority and agreed the annual governance statement and accounting statements for 2019/20. Since the last meeting in March, there has not, unfortunately, been any significant response in regard to matters raised about highways, although various small items raised have been dealt with under a new scheme of proactive response.

Continued page 10

THESE SERVICE DEPEND ON CLOSURE BEING LIFTED

THE SERVICE ROTA SOUTH CLIFFE VILLAGES GROUP

Village	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	5th Sunday
Date	2ns Aug	9th Aug	16th Aug	23rd Aug	31st Aug
BARKSTON		10.30 HC/SH			
BELTON					
BRANDON					
CARLTON SCROOP with NORMANTON					
CAYTHORPE				10.30 a.m HC/SH	
FULBECK			10.30 a.m HC/SH		
HONINGTON					10.30am HC/SH
HOUGH ON THE HILL		09.00 a.m HC/SH			
HOUGHAM	17.00 EP/CB			09.00 HC/SH	
MARSTON	9.00 a.m HC/SH			10.00a.m. MP/CS	
SYSTON			09.00 HC/SH		

1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	
6th Sept	13th Sept	20th Sept	27th Sept	31st Aug
	10.30am HC/SH			
		09.00 HC/SH	16.30 HC/SH	
10.30 Arnhem			10.30 a.m HC/SH	
		10.30 a.m HC/SH		
	09.00a.m HC/SH			
17.00 EP/CB			09.00 a.m HC/SH	
09.00 a.m HC/SH				
		10.30am HC/MC		

In Addition: see church notice boards or web site www.southcliffchurches.uk