

# THE TRIANGLE

serving Slingsby, Fryton & South Holme

No. 68

[www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk](http://www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk)

Feb/Mar 2022



“....If Winter comes can Spring be far behind?”

**Apr/May** copy to David Thornley, The Dower House, The Balk, Slingsby, tel: 01653 627210 **by Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March** at the very latest please or e-mail: [thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk](mailto:thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk) Price to non-subscribers £1.50



## On our cover

After nearly two weeks of frosty mornings as Triangle goes to print in mid-January, winter it seems has come, though little in the way of snow yet. The certainty of spring to come is always a good thought. The snowy photo on the cover was taken a few years ago (probably 2010) and is looking across the Mowbray Oak field from The Lawns. The words are the last line of a poem by Shelley (Ode to the West Wind).

## Brickyard Bulletin

Well, winter has arrived then! It's good to have a few cold weeks in winter, to kill a few bugs off and prepare things for spring – even if it does make washing spuds an unpopular job!

To say it's recently been the Christmas holidays for most people, we've been pretty busy this last month. For the first three weeks of December, we were washing and bagging potatoes (into 1.4ton bags) for KP crisps (I guessed it'd be Seabrooks last bulletin, but our customer has contracts with various factories and decided this crop was a better fit for McCoys).

On the 21<sup>st</sup> December we lifted another field of beet – most of this one didn't receive the bio stimulant mix at drilling that the others did, and didn't yield quite as well, which is interesting, and cements the decision whether or not to use it this next season. We ploughed the field the next day and drilled it with wheat, so that's the door now closed on winter drilling. Movement of the beet is very slow – Newark factory has suffered a lot with unreliable machinery and a shortage of staff due to the dreaded coronavirus – at the moment they are telling us that the factory will be open until 5<sup>th</sup> April – nearly a record.

Either side of Christmas we out-loaded nearly 1000tons of Royal potatoes for McCain at Scarborough (for the likes of home fries and oven chips), and since 3<sup>rd</sup> January we have been washing a variety called Pirol for Walkers Crisps in Leicester – fortunately their computer breakdown has now been fixed and its full steam ahead! The Royal were contracted for November movement, but due to

some other storage facilities breaking down, we were asked to hold our crop for a bit longer.



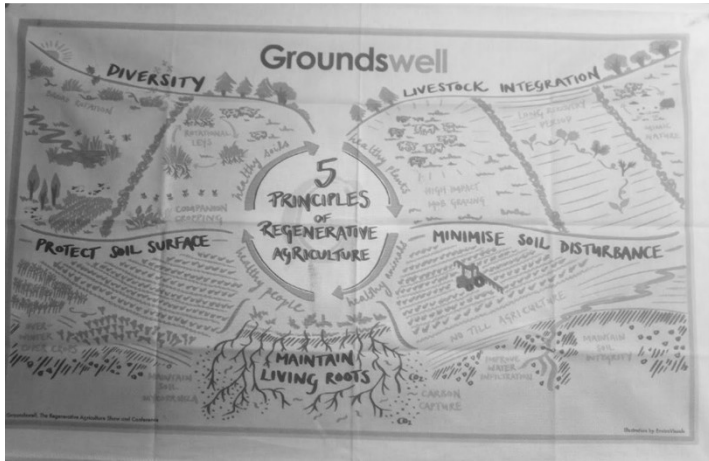
Between Christmas and New Year, we also had a pig batch change, which was something of a relief, given delays at abattoirs from a lack of skilled butchers. We got mucked out and filled back up with weaners on New Year's Eve – thanks lads, it was a busy week!

This last week, we have had five Farm Assurance inspections. These are as much fun as they sound, but necessary for us to attain Red Tractor status and be able to market our produce. We had Assured Combinable Crops and Beet, Assured Produce (Potatoes, basically), a McCain audit, quarterly vet inspection of the pigs, and an RSPCA pig assurance audit. Bar a couple of minor non-conformances due to a rule change, I'm pleased to say we passed them all.

It mostly involves lots of files of paperwork, but there's a fairly rigorous outside inspection too.



A few months ago, I mentioned that I'd been to Groundswell – a show basically in a field in Hertfordshire – to look at Regenerative Agriculture practices as a way forward through these increasingly challenging times for farming. It's a big subject, but the picture on the next page gives you a basic outline of what it is about.



We've been growing cover crops since 2011, and direct drilling at least some of our crops since 2013, so it's a natural progression really. 'Regen' is arguably much easier to achieve in combinable crops than in potatoes, but customer targets are leaning in that direction, so we set up a trial back in June to do some experimenting.

Planting was too late in the year to achieve a viable yield, but it was interesting, nonetheless. The Achilles heel is quality – we must produce a crop that is appealing to our customers, or we won't be in business long.

The field had an over winter cover crop on it, and was mucked in spring but not ploughed, just cultivated to a depth of 6 inches – more normal here would be about 10 inches. The potato sets were planted with just an inch of soil cover instead of a more normal 6 inches. It was interesting that slug pressure was much higher than normal, and that less cover gave better results. The companion plants weren't an ideal choice of species and grew high enough to both shade light from the potatoes and prevent blight sprays from reaching the leaves, resulting in poor quality. We used only a quarter of normal fertilizer, no herbicides and no insecticides. Straw as an option is expensive and impractical to lay and remove, (at scale anyway).

I have a PowerPoint document with a good bit more info within that I am happy to email should you be interested in learning more about the project.

This next month will see us washing Brooke potatoes for Walkers crisp factory in Leicester, decide which potato varieties we'll grow in 2022, lift some more beet, service some more machinery, and generally get ready for spring.

Keep well everybody.  
*Andrew Wilson*

Table showing outcomes of potato growing trial

Trial	Companion crop (CC) only	CC then straw	Straw then CC	Straw only	No Cover	Notes
Defects	Greens, rot, blight	Greens, rot, slug, blight	Greens, rot, slug, blight	Greens slug, blight	Mostly greens	Not usable, or storable
Yield tons per acre	3.42	1.48	1.49	4.85	4.37	Very low – normally 16-20tpa
Waste	28%	46%	44%	38%	21%	Very high normally 4-8%

**Scam Alert – message from North Yorkshire Police**

North Yorkshire Police have received a large number of reports from local residents where they have been called by a male claiming to be a police officer. This 'police officer' goes on to claim they have arrested a person related to the victim who has attempted to buy a television or other high value item using the victim's bank card.

The scammer will often give the victim a bogus reference number. The victim is instructed to attend their bank to withdraw money which will then be collected for safekeeping in order to protect them.

The victim is further told that they must lie to the bank if they are challenged and say the money is to purchase a car or for building work or some other plausible excuse. This is of course false.

....Continued/

## **/Scam Alert continued...**

**Remember, the police or your bank will never contact you and ask you to move or transfer money.**

If you receive a call of this nature, hang up immediately, do not engage with the caller. Make sure the telephone line is clear (i.e. the scammer is no longer on the line) and call 101. Please pass on this alert onto family and friends.

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### **Kay Hill**

**1953-2021**



The Triangle is particularly sad to announce the death of Kay Hill in December 2021.

Kay was one of The Triangle's regular contributors for some four years, writing 15 articles for the magazine during that time. It was Kay who devised the 'VIP' series, being interviews with some residents of Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme, particularly those who had lived in the three villages for many years. She thought they did not get the recognition they deserved, so did something about

it, initially by writing one article and then joining the team of regular contributors. Kay was a natural at interviews being a very personable and friendly Glaswegian. She enjoyed meeting new people in the village and they seemed to enjoy talking to her, so it was a good match all round.

Kay and her husband, Jimmy, became friends of ours shortly after they arrived in Slingsby, initially because we both had a Bearded Collie and started to chat during walkies, comparing the two dogs. The two Beardies died several years ago and we both said we weren't having another dog. However, it wasn't long before Kay's friend's Cockapoo was looking for a home so Kay and Jimmy took her on. Muffin became a regular Friday visitor to our house too, fulfilling our remaining need for a 'fur-fix' and relieving Muffin of the insecurity of being alone when Kay and Jimmy had to go out. Jimmy could always be seen twice a day religiously walking his new-found canine friend. When Kay's illness worsened Muffin went to live with Kay's son, where she has become an established and much-loved part of the family.

It is about two years since Kay was first informed she had cancer. Since then she had regular chemotherapy sessions, being told only about four months ago that the cancer had shrunk, so she was very positive about the outcome. Kay was looking forward to continuing the articles for The Triangle and meeting other villagers. She particularly enjoyed the Sowers & Growers Group. Sadly, however the cancer returned and she was admitted to hospital in mid-October. She died on December 18<sup>th</sup> in a hospice at Stamford Bridge, with her son by her side.

Kay's funeral was held at All Saints' Church on 10<sup>th</sup> January, the coffin being led by a lone bagpiper. It was not a mournful service but a celebration of Kay's life, as per Kay's wishes because she had taken an active interest in the planning of her own funeral. The church was full, reflecting how popular this lady was. Donations were requested to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, raising over £300 at the time of writing.

Our thoughts and best wishes go to the family at this sad time.

*Carol and David Thornley*

## YOUR TRIANGLE DELIVERY CREW VOLUNTEERS

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>FRYTON:</b>               | Mick Singleton    |
| <b>SOUTH HOLME:</b>          | Fiona Farnell     |
| <b>SLINGSBY:</b>             |                   |
| Aspen Way part/Green Dyke Ln | Kate Curtois      |
| Aspen Way part 2             | Kate Stansfield   |
| Balksyde                     | Sandra Dalglish   |
| Cavendish Court              | Jo Plaskitt       |
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| Sycamore Close               | Philip Jackson    |
| The Green                    | Maurag Carmichael |
| The Green Crescent           | Nancy Coates      |
| The Lawns                    | Nick Witt         |
| <b>POSTAL DELIVERY:</b>      | Jo Breckon        |

### The Triangle production team:

**Co Editors:** David Thornley and Gill Baker  
(alternating)

**Distribution and Advertising:** Jo Breckon

**Treasurer:** Caroline Edwards

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thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk

**Please send us articles, comments, photos, ideas**

To contact Slingsby Village website go to:

**admin@slingsbyvillage.co.uk**

Please remember that we will acknowledge all emails sent to the triangle team. Occasionally we have technical issues which cause messages to go into our spam folder, where they might be missed. So, if we have not acknowledged your message after a couple of days, please contact us using the telephone number on the front of every triangle to check.

*Ed*

**Website: [www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk](http://www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk)**



Get involved! Help the website help your community.  
We'd love to hear from you at [admin@slingsbyvillage.co.uk](mailto:admin@slingsbyvillage.co.uk)

## Welcome to Slingsby

Welcome to Nikki and Steve Lyon who have moved into Railway Street from East Yorkshire. Steve tells the Triangle:

"Nikki recently took over as stock control manager at Castle Howard and is enjoying life in 'The Big House'. After a quarter of a century at the 'chalk face' teaching maths, Steve now supports teachers of maths in his role as an education advisor.

Both Nikki and Steve are 'outsiders' hailing from Hertfordshire and Lancashire but have lived in Yorkshire for the last 25 years so hope to acquire Yorkshire citizenship in the next decade or so!

Also residing at Gwalia House is our daughter Fran. Having finished a biomedical degree under the cloud of Covid, she is also working at Castle Howard whilst planning her next move. An occasional visitor is our son, Ned, currently studying at university in Derby.

If you have a dog, you have probably already met us walking Paddy, our Border Collie, on one of his many walks around the village.

We are taking weekly history lessons from our neighbour, Freda, who has been filling us in on all the village gossip from the last ninety years - we still have a lot to learn!"

## Slingsby Oil Consortium

The last dates for Oil Orders for the coming year are:

1<sup>st</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> September,  
1<sup>st</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup> December

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*Terry Baker*



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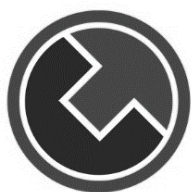
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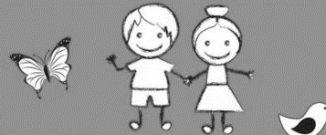
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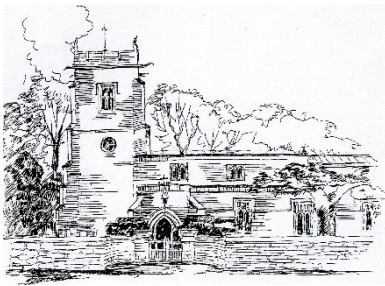
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## **News from All Saints**

We have held several very successful events over the Christmas period; starting with the Village Christmas Lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Over 50 of us started with Prosecco and nibbles then sat down to a Christmas lunch followed by a selection of puddings, coffee and mince pies. A lovely afternoon and thanks to the cooks and their helpers – Liz, Diane, Anita and Chrysa.

The church was decorated on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December in time to welcome the fabulous Terrington choir for an uplifting concert of carols, songs and readings.



The decorations in the church included 18 fully decorated and lit trees, many given by villagers. Two were decorated by the children from Slingsby School, who had written personal messages of hope that were hung on the trees. The Christmas tree festival lasted until 12<sup>th</sup> night and was visited by very many people who left messages in the church saying how peaceful and joyous an experience it was.

Services over the period included the joint carol service held with Methodist friends on the Green, our annual crib service and the first communion of Christmas on 24<sup>th</sup> December. The collection at the crib service was given to The Disasters Emergency Committee to support children in Afghanistan, Yemen and Indonesia.

We are planning a full year of activities for all the village over the coming year including the postponed “Posh Frocks” an art and crafts exhibition, garden fete and collaboration with all groups in the village to mark the Platinum jubilee. Details will follow in coming Triangle magazines.

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe New Year.

*Chrysa Apps. Treasurer*





## Maurice Joseph Woollons 1923 – 2021

(Predeceased by Shirley 1927 -2019)



Maurice was born in York in 1923. He attended Archbishop Holgate grammar school where he excelled at rugby, playing flyhalf for the colts, a position he later held when he played for York RUFC.

His main interest was aircraft. Still a rare thing then, this interest was such that at the age of 16 he sat the entrance exam for the Royal Air Force apprentices, which he passed. He reported to RAF Halton, Buckinghamshire on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 1939, just two days after war was declared with Germany.

Qualifying as both an engineer and pilot he remained in the RAF until 1947. Indirectly, the RAF also brought Maurice and Shirley together, Shirley being the little sister of a fellow trainee pilot.

In his 80s he flew a Cessna light aircraft taking off from Wombledon, co-piloting his son, Norman.

Taking the controls brought everything back, he said it was just like riding a bike – you never forget!

In 1950 Maurice joined his brother in the York based family hardware business, Woollons & Harwood, which his father George had founded in 1901. A year later Maurice and Shirley were married, it spanned 68 years, they had known one another for 75 years.

Maurice moved to Malton in 1969 as Woollons & Harwood expanded. Developing the business and helping the town over a period of nearly 40 years. Shirley joined him in the business in the 1970's.

With the business in Malton, Maurice and Shirley moved to Brook House, Slingsby in 1989. A village, and a community they both loved. Over the years Shirley baked cakes for different events and many readers may have visited their beautiful garden on open days. Shirley founded the garden group, Sowers & Growers, still going strong.



Maurice was a familiar figure in the village as he cycled to the shop for his daily paper, doing so into his 90s, or walking the dogs along the cinder track. Wherever you encountered him he would always pass the time of day, doffing his cap as he did so. A true gentleman, and a man of great humanity.

Both Maurice and Shirley said many times “It is the people that make a village.” Slingsby certainly had a special place in both their hearts, so it is fitting that their final resting place will be Slingsby church yard.

*Norman, Paul & Simon Woollons  
On behalf of the family*



## A Right Royal Quiz

As we enter the year of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, here is a fun quiz to test your knowledge about the Kings and Queens of Great Britain past and present.

1. Queen Elizabeth II has two birthdays. An official one in June but; when is her real birthday?
2. She loves dogs but, which is her favourite breed?
3. She is the only person in the UK allowed to drive without what?
4. In which year was her Diamond Jubilee a) 2002 b) 1992 c) 2012?
5. What is the relationship between Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria?
6. How many children did Queen Victoria have? a) 8, b) 9, c) 10?
7. Which royal house did Queen Victoria belong to a) Windsor b) Saxe-Coburg and Gotha c) Hanover?
8. How many wives did Henry VIII have? Can you name them?
9. Henry VIII's reign came just after the War of the Roses but, which two houses was this royal war between?
10. How long did the 100 Years War last? a) 96, b) 100, c) 116?
11. Following his success at the Battle of Hastings, William the Conqueror was crowned King on Christmas Day 1066 in Westminster Abbey. Which country did he come from?
12. Queen Elizabeth I was a Tudor Queen who reigned from 1558 to 1603. During her reign there were many famous explorers and adventurers. Who captained the Golden Hind in his circumnavigation of the world?
13. Elizabeth I had no children so, who succeeded her to the throne?
14. Which first name has been used most times by Kings of Britain? a) Edward, b) George, c) Henry, d) William?
15. Who is currently fourth in line to the throne?
16. What was Queen Elizabeth II's childhood nickname?
17. Which Royal Monarch came to stay at Castle Howard as a guest of 7th Earl of Carlisle in 1850?
18. What is the name of the Royal residence where the Queen normally spends Christmas?
19. How rooms are there at Buckingham Palace? a) 575, b) 675, c) 775?
20. How many British monarchs have celebrated their Platinum Jubilee?

▪ See pages 20/21 for answers

*Jo Breckon*

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## The Yorkshire Arboretum News

The Arboretum has recently advised that last year although difficult was successful for them.

"We've done very well, with record numbers of visitors, and a steady recruitment of new members, testifying to the importance of open spaces and the benefits of being able to get outside among the trees, and how much these are valued.

Besides that, we finished, occupied and opened the Peter Sowerby Building, launched the Tree Health Centre's activities, and have almost finished the Red Squirrel enclosure – not bad for a small organisation in a difficult year.

We sincerely thank you, our members, volunteers and friends, for all your support for the arboretum through the year."

### Opening Times for Visitors and Members

We intend, circumstances permitting, to reopen the arboretum and café to everyone from **1<sup>st</sup> February**. The arboretum will be open with winter hours, 10am - 4pm every day, with last entry at 3pm. Members can continue to enjoy entry from 9am, one hour before public opening.



Christmas seems a distant memory as we settle into the end of Winter and look forward to the start of Spring.

Wherever you are, we will all have been hit by the rise in fuel costs. LPG, Oil and natural gas have all risen in cost as well as electricity as Britain generates around a third of its electricity from burning natural gas. The options to price fix or change suppliers are no longer the money saving tool they once were as deals are few and far between. In April this is due to rise again with the changes to the price cap.

The only thing we do have control over is managing how we use the energy in our homes. A few simple tricks and tips may save you some money on the ever-increasing bills.

Lots of websites have advice such as, The Energy Saving Trust, Which and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Here are a few, taken from these websites, you may not have thought of:

- Use your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle instead of higher temperatures and save £10 a year on energy. Only wash your clothes in your washing machine when you have a full load. Reducing your washing machine use by one run per week for a year could save you an extra £10.
- Keeping your shower time to just 4 minutes could save a typical household £45 a year on their energy bills.
- Avoid overfilling the kettle and save yourself £8 a year on your electricity bill.
- If you're replacing an appliance, you can cut your electricity bills by choosing the most energy-efficient model. For example, Energy-efficient washing machines, depending on size, vary between £15 and £70 a year.
- An LED light bulb costs around £1.71 a year to run. Over its lifetime, it could cut around £180 from your energy bills, compared with an old-

style bulb. Remember, energy-saving light bulbs last longer than traditional ones.

- You'll spend more on energy if your heating system doesn't work or isn't set up properly. Use timers and thermostats if you have them - this way you'll only heat your house when necessary. On average, you'll save around £70 each year.

**Send us in your energy saving tips however quirky.  
All suggestions to [jobreckon65@gmail.com](mailto:jobreckon65@gmail.com)**

## **Slingsby Methodist Chapel**

The Covid pandemic has tried to spoil everything but failed to dampen the celebrations of the birth of Jesus as church and chapel came together to sing carols round the village and for the Carol service on the village green. It was picture post card stuff as enthusiastic carollers sang to their appreciative doorstep listeners who gave generously to the Church of England and Methodist children's societies.

The short joint Carol Service on The Green was enjoyed by all. The Christmas lights in the trees and in windows and the Christmas tree and large star on the wall of chapel all added meaning and purpose to the singing of carols and readings from the Bible. A warm fruity drink was the perfect way to end proceedings.

Over 40 Slingsby residents enjoyed their Christmas Soupa Lunch delivered to their homes by village helpers. Generous people donated sandwiches, Christmas pudding, home-made soup and a bag of sweets. If you would appreciate a free lunch and live in Slingsby, please contact Stephen and Rachel Prest on 01653 628277. The February and March delivery dates are on the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month.

And now a new year and in the Church calendar Lent starts on 2<sup>nd</sup> March leading on to Easter Sunday on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Who knows what 2022 will bring but as nature gives hope through its beauty in snowdrops and daffodils and new growth everywhere, let us be given fresh hope through the reality of the birth of Jesus and that He is Emmanuel, God with us.

*Geoff Bishop*



## Stephen's Farming Column

Early January when I am writing this is a quiet time on the farm especially as the land is very wet at the present time. We are doing a bit of hedge cutting and other maintenance work and getting all the machines ready for the spring work when it comes round again. It has been a very mild winter so far with a lot of rain and a number of storms but even so crops look very well. Wheat prices remain quite firm with feed wheat still at around £200 per tonne and oilseed rape at over £500 per tonne, strongly influenced by the very high fuel prices. The downside is that fertiliser and other input costs are also very high.

Conservation and re-wilding are what government want farmers to do going forward and that is where farm subsidies are moving to. Recently I applied to join another Countryside Stewardship Scheme concentrating on sowing more wild bird seed mixtures, 6 metre grass margins round the arable fields and legume mixes to encourage bees and other insects. It is supposed to begin on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 but so far, I have not heard if the application has been successful, let's hope I hear soon.

On the conservation side of things again I am seeing a lot of wild birds on the feeders in the garden especially great tits, blue tits, coal tits, sparrows and robins. One of my favourite birds are the stock doves which are smaller than the woodpigeons with grey feathers but with a purplish tinge around the neck feathers. I have a pair that regularly nest in the roof area of an outside barn and seem to rear a number of broods every year.



*Stephen Prest*

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## Friends of Slingsby School (FOSS)

A very happy new year to you all. We were delighted to be able to provide a festive party for the school children at the end of last term despite the need to adapt the usual plans once again. The event is normally run by FOSS volunteers at the village hall, but for the second year in a row a huge thank you goes to the school teachers and staff who

gave up their own time in order to run parties in bubbles within school. The children enjoyed lots of festive food, an entertainer for key stage 1 and a DJ for key stage 2, and each received a book individually chosen for them as a Christmas gift.

The Christmas Draw is an important fundraiser for FOSS and it was wonderful that this year was just as successful as years gone by. Some very generous prizes were donated from The Star Inn, Hearts and Glitter, Ryedale and Pickering Dog Fields and many more local businesses prompting ticket sales that raised almost £1100. The tombola and bake sale which would normally take place at the school Christmas performances went ahead after school on The Green to allow for distancing and fresh air, and raised almost £200 in addition to this. Many thanks to everyone who contributed by donating, purchasing, and spreading the word about these events.

Plans are being formed for events over the next few months and we hope there is a chance it might be possible to carry these out with fewer restrictions than have been necessary during the past 2 years. We are of course mindful of the importance of keeping the community safe and will continue to follow guidelines and adapt plans as needed in order to do so. Many thanks for your ongoing support in our fundraising efforts and we wish you all the very best for 2022.

*Helen Mackinder*

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# BRISTLES

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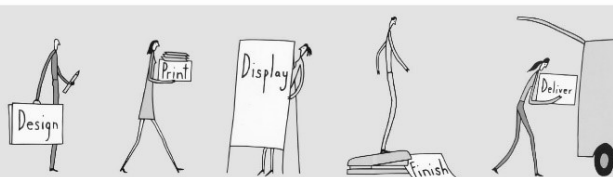
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## Could you write for The Triangle?

Have you thought of drafting an article for the Triangle? Perhaps you have an interest or an information story you think readers will like to hear about?

Local stories – both past and present – are always of interest. But perhaps something around the wider community or a skill or hobby you are willing to share.

Someone able to help with 'Community Matters' features – talking to village people – would be very welcome too. As would extra help with obituaries so we can remember the past lives of our residents in the way their families would like.

Whilst it can be a challenge to keep a good variety of articles in the magazine – that variety is what helps to keep us all reading.

Don't worry if you're not a great writer – just getting things down is a great start – the editors are there to tidy up spelling, add punctuation etc.

You can send us snippets or longer features. Our main rule is we try not to include anything controversial or political, but that's all.

Do decide to contribute. If you want to chat about it first, just ring one of the Editors:

David on 627210

Gill on 628479

Or email [thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk](mailto:thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk) and someone will get back to you

Areas of the Grounds and Gardens are very muddy so please dress appropriately if you plan to walk off the main paths.

The House and Walled Garden are now closed for an annual period of cleaning and maintenance and will re-open in Spring 2022 with an exciting programme of events. Keep an eye on Castle Howard's website and social media for more information.

Pre-booking to visit the garden is essential

### Outlet Opening Times

|                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| The Coffee Shop                  | Open daily 9am - 5pm                |
| The Courtyard Cafe               | Closed (re-opens from 21st January) |
| The Boathouse Café               | Open weekends only 10am - 4pm       |
| Fitzroy Café and House Gift Shop | Closed                              |
| The Castle Howard Farm Shop      | Open daily from 10am - 5pm          |
| The Garden Centre                | Open daily 10am - 4pm               |



Entrance to Castle Howard over Christmas

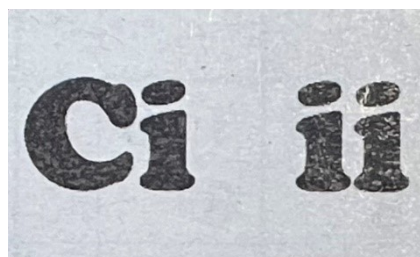
## Castle Howard News



The Gardens and Skelf Island Adventure Playground are open daily, from 10am (9am for Friends of Castle Howard) with last admission to the Gardens at 3pm.

## Dingbat anyone?

– say what you see



Answer on page 22

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- ♦ Bar profits reinvested into the local community
- ♦ Quick bingo game every Saturday night
- ♦ Friday night cricket team (new players welcome)
- ♦ Thursday evening Tennis social nights
- ♦ Recently refurbished with a new modern feel
- ♦ Membership just £5 per year (New members welcome)

Find out more by visiting: [www.facebook.com/SlingsbySportsClub](http://www.facebook.com/SlingsbySportsClub)  
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## Candlemas Day

2<sup>nd</sup> February is Candlemas Day. This ancient festival marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox. In olden times, many people used to say that the Christmas season lasted for forty days - until the second day of February. Snowdrops are also known as known as Candlemas bells. The name snowdrop does not mean 'drop' of snow, it means drop as in eardrop - the old word for earring.

Many versions of the following rhyme exist but they all give basically the same message.

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright  
Winter will have another fight.  
If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain,  
Winter won't come again.

If Candlemas Day be dry and fair,  
Then half o the winter's to come and mair;  
If Candlemas Day be wet and foul,  
The half o the winter's gane at Yule.

If on Candlemas Day you see the sun,  
Then half the winter's yet to come.  
But if Candlemas Day is cloudy and black,  
It'll carry old winter away on its back.

February, along with January, was introduced onto the Roman calendar by Numa Pompilius when the calendar was extended from ten to twelve months. The word February comes from the word '**februa**' - which means cleansing or purification, and reflects the rituals undertaken before Spring.

Thank you to a Triangle reader for sending us this fascinating historical information and Poem - *Ed*

## Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme Parish Council

The Parish Council meets on 17<sup>th</sup> January as the Triangle goes to print. Items on the Agenda for the meeting include:

1. Soupa Club Funding Request
2. Plant a Tree for the Queens Platinum Jubilee
3. Street Light Maintenance Programme

4. Highways Issues
5. Slingsby Crossroads Update
6. Village Maintenance
7. Cemetery Maintenance
8. Dog Fouling
9. Castle Howard Properties
10. Bench at the top of the sheep walk

Minutes from the previous meeting in November showed discussion of improvements at Fryton to combat flooding. For full details read the minutes of Parish Council meetings on the Website - [www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk](http://www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk)

## Music Classes for Slingsby School Children




The Richard Shephard Music Foundation was set up last year in memory of composer and former Minster School headmaster, Dr Richard Shephard. It brings weekly music classes to primary school children in Ryedale and Yorkshire.

The Charity has been working with four primary schools since September 2021: Pickering, Gillamoor, and schools in Scarborough and Middlesbrough. Now it has begun 2022 by signing up a fifth school - **Slingsby Community Primary School**.

The charity's aim is to help more children in rural and deprived areas of Yorkshire to experience music in classrooms, and at events, across the region.

General Manager of the Charity, Cathy Grant, said "I've been absolutely blown away by the impact our work is having on the young people, even after such a short space of time, and we trust Richard would have been really proud to see the Foundation going from strength to strength".



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## The Slingsby Website and Newsletter Group is currently in search of a Treasurer


No specialist knowledge is required, although a familiarity with spreadsheets such as Excel would be helpful. An early applicant will receive a full handover and may be offered training if required.

The Treasurer maintains a record of payments and receipts, arranges payment of bills and invoices, provides the Group with quarterly updates on the financial position, and prepares the End of Year accounts for the Group.


The system we use is well-embedded, and has been improved by our outgoing treasurer, so it should be straightforward to slot into the role. There is no requirement to attend meetings although you will be most welcome to join the team when we begin to meet again.

If you would be prepared to carry out this task, or know someone who might be interested, we would be very grateful if you could get in touch by email to [admin@slingsbyvillage.co.uk](mailto:admin@slingsbyvillage.co.uk) or by ringing Jon on 01653 628396.

The job will not take up much of your time but it is important since you will be helping to ensure that the Slingsby Website and Newsletter Group continues to provide our community with the village website and the Triangle newsletter.



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## Slingsby School

All the Governors and staff at Slingsby School would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! We had a brilliant first term back and our lively new reception children settled in very quickly. Of course, we have had to continue to follow Covid-19 regulations and on occasion had to revert back to being in separate bubbles when small outbreaks of Covid-19 occurred, but on the whole, it was a really productive and eventful fourteen weeks.

Many of our children took part in a series of inter-schools sporting events run by Malton Community Sports Centre including football, rugby and multi-skills. We all really enjoyed meeting up with other primary schools after so long of no sporting competitions. In October our Year 5 and Year 6 children went away for a whole week to stay at the Peat Rigg Outdoor Centre near Pickering for a jam packed five days of activities including abseiling, kayaking, orienteering and night walking. We were so proud of how all the children challenged themselves and worked together. There were a lot of laughs!

In November, Castle Howard and the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust came to lead wildlife workshops with the children and animal ornaments were made for the Castle Howard Chapel Christmas Tree which

formed part of the Narnia experience. Our Class 2 children also helped to decorate the Slingsby Church Christmas tree with prayers and hopes for the future.

We were really sad not to be able to invite parents, carers and family to watch our Christmas performances due to Covid, but the children still gave it their best in front of the teachers who were able to record The Key Stage 1 Christmas Nativity and Key Stage 2 Bethlehem the Musical so that families could watch them together at home. We even managed to still have a delicious Christmas turkey lunch and small Christmas parties in school organised by FOSS in the last week of term with a children's circus entertainer and DJ.

We must also say a great big thank you to the villagers who decorated the village Green with such wonderful lights during December. They were hugely appreciated by all our families and made leaving school in the dark for both children and staff most enjoyable!

Our amazing staff continue to inspire and encourage the children in all aspects of their learning and we are proud to support them as the school continues to go from strength to strength.

*Slingsby School Governors*



Photo above shows one of the Church trees decorated by the school children

An old picture – probably 2000 – showing a School Christmas production in the Village Hall



## Allotment News

We got our first allotment on the site in Norton behind the Hyde Park pub in Mill Street in 1978 and have been growing fruit and vegetables since we had a rented property in Leeds in 1975. At the time we got what little knowledge we had from watching Gardeners World, but also we bought a weekly gardening magazine called Grow your Own. This was one of those encyclopaedias that came in parts and it built up to a complete vegetable and fruit reference over 52 weeks. The cost in 1977 was 30p each week, so £15.60 for the year. I still use it regularly.

In 1976 Gardeners World was presented by Arthur Billet from his plot at Clacks Farm. I remember being



amazed at the dwarf fruit trees they grew there and religiously followed his advice. At that time, it was

common practice to spray apples and pears with a cocktail of fungicides and insecticides several times a year, which I certainly no longer do. The photo shows Arthur Billet on the right, with Peter Seabrook who, as I've been writing this, has died.



In 1979 Gardeners World began to be presented by Geoff Hamilton and he did this for the next 17 years until 1996. The show moved in a different direction under him by encouraging organic growing and trying to live with nature rather than exterminating it. I was sad to see the end of Clacks Farm

but was keen to put Geoff Hamilton's very practical ideas into our gardening. I loved his make do and mend approach and his little building and landscaping projects. He also brought the idea of using deep beds to grow vegetables and encouraged

a no digging routine – great for lazy gardeners like me.

Since 1996 we haven't watched the programme as regularly, but presenter, Alan Titchmarsh's garden in Hampshire always looked immaculate, particularly compared to the views on Monty Don's



more naturalistic garden where the show is currently filmed. It's interesting to watch Monty sing the praises of a large part of his garden covered in cow parsley – how ideas change! Sometimes it seems as though his dogs are the stars of the show with the camera regularly dwelling on them.

So far, this winter has been a bit drier than the last few and it's been possible to get on the Allotment site without having to wade through the usual standing water. I am still harvesting leeks and these have been the best we've had for several years. They'll be starting to go to seed soon and so we need to get them used pretty quickly.

The beds I've used to grow carrots and parsnips were really good earlier in the year but over the last couple of months have been enjoyed by some rodent. I'm not sure what it is but the parsnips I've tried to harvest are just hollowed-out tubes. The whole centre of each one has been eaten and the animal has just left the outer skin. Similarly with the carrots left in the ground, though with these our visitor has also left the central core. The animal is obviously quite picky about what it eats. I'll have to sort out how to deal with this next year. It's very frustrating to expect to pick something and without realising someone's been there before you get to it.

I've dug up the remaining apple bushes from the centre of our orchard and have purchased a plum and damson to grow as cordons.

....Continued/



## **/Allotment News continued....**

These are on a rootstock called VVA/1. This produces a tree of similar size to an apple grown on M9 so I'm hoping it will be possible to keep it as a cordon. I've tried to grow trained plums in the past but previous rootstocks have made it difficult to keep the trees within reasonable sizes.

Winter is the time when I try and buy the seeds for the next growing season. It's amazing how the different seed companies charge so differently for the same varieties. I often get carried away and buy too many varieties because many seeds keep several years and you rarely use the whole packet in one year.

Many seeds sold in the catalogues are called F1 hybrids. These are often the most expensive in the catalogue and packets sometimes contain very few seeds. It's not uncommon for F1 tomatoes for example to have only 5 or 6 seeds to a packet. This means each seed might cost nearly £1.

However, F1 seeds are difficult to produce. The seed company has to maintain two different parent lines. Each of these parents are inbred for up to 10 generations and produce weak but genetically consistent plants. The two different parents are then made to cross pollinate and the resulting seed gives the first generation cross (the hybrid) a remarkable uniformity and vigour. Any seed saved from F1 plants will not be like their parent plant.

February is the time I plan to sow my peppers so that my plants are a good size when I put them in the greenhouse in May. Hopefully they'll produce some good red and yellow fruit in time for the Produce Show later in the year (slugs and rodents permitting).

If you're interested in having a plot, please contact our chairman Brian Clarke on 628625.

*Terry Baker*

~~~~~

## **Slingsby Sports and Social Club**

I would like to start, on behalf of everyone connected with Slingsby Sports and Social Club, by

wishing all in Slingsby and the surrounding area a very happy New Year. We can all hope that 2022 has less disruption in everyone's life than 2020 and 2021.

Reflecting on the past year with the club it is clear that, despite all the challenges and disruption, that it has been another excellent year with many really positive things to take heart from.

For example, we have replaced the perimeter fence with a superb new fence which will hopefully last many years, the addition of a notice board at the entrance to the field which has been a great way to communicate what is going on with the club and the purchase of new picnic tables for people to enjoy when the weather improves.

In addition, we have been able to run a number of charity events, including a fantastic afternoon tea for Breast Cancer Now run by Elaine Taylor and the first of the Dave Calvert Memorial Cricket matches which will be run every year to raise money for The Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

We also managed to restart the Car Boot Sales which were, as always, incredibly popular and a great social opportunity for people to meet up with friends they haven't seen for a long time.

We have also continued our developments with regard to the bar facilities in the club, including new beer pumps and the introduction of new drinks, including a wider range of beers, ciders, wines, flavoured gins and other spirits.

This year has also seen a significant increase in the number of the members of the club and we are also incredibly grateful that new people are kindly offering up their time to help out behind the bar. We thank everyone who has offered to give up some time to do a spell on the bar, although more volunteers are always welcome - and as the number of people available to help out increases we will be able to continue to enhance the hours that the club is open for people to enjoy, particularly during the summer.

We can also reflect on a superb bonfire night which was attended by an incredible number of people and is something that we are always keen to reflect upon and improve wherever possible.

/Continued....

## /Sports and Social Club continued....

In addition to all of the things mentioned above we can also all be proud of the fantastic success of the Slingsby Cricket Club in doing the double of winning the Feversham Cricket League and also the top four play-off cup.

The cricket club has a lot to look forward to, including plans to form a junior cricket side in 2022. Plans are already well developed, working closely with the school, to run a "Chance to Shine" Programme at the school and deliver "All Stars Cricket" with the Cricket Club. We are starting off by developing cricket for the younger age groups but will also be working on delivering cricketing opportunities for children of all ages.

Looking forward into 2022 we have a lot to be very excited about and look forward to.

As many people may have noticed we have taken the opportunity to do some further maintenance and refurbishment on the Sports Club building to make sure that it is fit for the next 30 years and beyond.

We are also excited about been part of the village celebrations associated with the Queen Platinum Jubilee in June (see the separate piece in The Triangle about the planning for that special event).

As always throughout the course of the year we will continue to be running our ever popular First Friday of the Month charity quiz nights as well as our third Friday of the month darts and dominoes night.

We are also starting to run an individual darts league for residents of Slingsby and the surrounding area. Limited to 8 people initially it is an opportunity for players to enjoy some competitive, but still fun, games without the need to be in a team and travelling around North Yorkshire playing in a competitive league.

As a club we are always interested in ways that we can continue to benefit the community and be a resource that people enjoy using. We are always interested in ideas of how the club can develop further and always welcome ideas in terms of how the club can be used. Perhaps people might be interested in playing other games such as

backgammon or having a board games night to put those skills learnt during the various lockdowns to good use. Whenever we are able to accommodate the ideas within the capacity of the volunteers that run the club, we are always happy to.

## Thanks to Club volunteers

Which brings me to my final point, the club is run by an amazing and incredibly dedicated group of volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the sports field for the community to enjoy as well as developing and running the social side of the club, the play area, the tennis courts and the cricket club. I know that the work that is done by this core group of people is very much appreciated by the community that we serve and as chairman I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of the members of the committee and the volunteers who put in so many hours of work to keep the club going. Your help, support and effort are very much appreciated.

I would like to end by thanking everyone who has supported and visited the club in 2021 and look forward to seeing many more people enjoying the club's facilities in 2022. Take care,

*Paul Hogarth (Chairman, Slingsby Sports and Social Club)*

## Royal Quiz Answers:

1. **April 21<sup>st</sup>**
2. **Corgi**, she even invented a new breed of dog when her corgi mated with a dachshund belonging to her sister, Princess Margaret, creating the "dorgi".
3. **A driving licence**
4. **2012** celebrating 60 years since her accession to the throne.
5. Queen Victoria is her **great-great-grandma!**
6. b) **9**. Queen Victoria was succeeded by Prince Albert Edward, her eldest son and second child. He was known as King Edward VII.
7. c) **Hanover**, Queen Victoria herself was the last monarch of the House of Hanover.
8. **Six. Catherine of Aragon** – divorced, **Anne Boleyn** – beheaded, **Jane Seymour** – died, **Anne of Cleves** – divorced, **Catherine Howard** – beheaded, **Catherine Parr** – survived.
9. **House of Lancaster and the House of York**



10. **116 years.** (1337–1453) it was a series of conflicts fought between England and France over succession to the French throne.
  11. Normandy in **France.** William spoke no English when he ascended the throne, and he failed to master it despite his efforts. Following the Norman invasion, French was spoken in England's courts for centuries and completely transformed the English language, infusing it with new words.
  12. **Francis Drake,** the Golden Hind was originally known as Pelican, but Drake renamed her mid-voyage in 1578,
  13. James VI of Scotland was Elizabeth's successor and became **James I of England.**
  14. **Edward.** There have been 11 kings of England called Edward but only eight of them were numbered.
  15. **Princess Charlotte of Cambridge.** 1<sup>st</sup> - Charles, the Prince of Wales, 2<sup>nd</sup> - William, the Duke of Cambridge, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Prince George of Cambridge, 4<sup>th</sup> - Princess Charlotte of Cambridge.
  16. Growing up, the Queen's parents and grandparents called her **Lilibet.**
  17. **Queen Victoria with Prince Albert.** Victoria's visit to Castle Howard was a private one, as she and Albert broke their journey from London to Scotland. Arriving by train at the Castle Howard station the party were driven by horse and carriage to Castle Howard.
  18. **Sandringham,** Norfolk.
  19. **775.** The Palace contains secret passage ways, not least a concealed passageway that allows the Queen to move around and surprise guests. According to the Royal website: "The Queen enters the room via a hidden door disguised as a mirror and cabinet before receiving guests.
  20. Her Majesty **The Queen** will become the **first British Monarch** to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service.
- ~~~~~

## Slingsby Local History Group

It was great to see everyone back at our Folk Tales and coffee session in December. The Local History Group aims to start meetings again from February, with a look at our archive with a view to a

commemorative project on national celebrations in the past, in particular Jubilees.

We hope to put together a small exhibition in time for early June when the Queen's Platinum Jubilee is planned to be celebrated. If you have any photographs or other memorabilia from any past celebrations and would be willing to loan them and allow us to photograph them for our Local History archive please contact David Thornley at the Dower House in Slingsby or by email to:

[southcott@slingsby.myzen.co.uk](mailto:southcott@slingsby.myzen.co.uk)

or on 627210.

We are currently working on a list of activities for this year and are hoping that we can also organise some trips out as well. Anyone who wishes to join us and who is not already on our mailing list please email Margaret Mackinder

[\(margaretmackinder@gmail.com\)](mailto:margaretmackinder@gmail.com)

to receive fuller details shortly.

*Margaret Mackinder*

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## Staying Healthy – Mentally and Physically

New Year, same old Covid. For some of us vaccinations and the apparent weakening of new strains makes us feel rather safer, some of us though still feel vulnerable. Coupled with this, the outside world is a new place with changed rules. What can we do ourselves that's easy and can help to enhance our mood, especially when days are short, weather is cold and the news is all gloomy?

Here are some suggestions from Mind the mental health charity to help us feel happier and healthier.

### Connect with other people

- Talk to someone every day – in person or on the phone
- Ask how someone is and really listen when they tell you

### Be active

- Take the stairs not the lift
- Go for a walk at lunchtime
- Do some easy exercise, like stretching in the morning, before you start your day

**Take notice** - enjoy the moment and the environment around you

- Have a 'clear the clutter' day
- Take notice of how others are feeling or acting

**Learn** - why not learn something new today? Here are some ideas:

- Find out something about a neighbour or colleague
- Sign up for a class or join a group
- Read the news or a book or do a crossword or Sudoku
- Learn a new word

**Give** – a little time to others

- Get involved in your local community in some way
- Do something for another person – just kind words are often enough to brighten their day and yours

For more help and ideas visit: [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

## Sowers and Growers

Sowers and Growers has begun meeting again with most of "the gang" back together.

In November John Foxton came and told us how to prune shrubs and roses and what to tidy up in our late autumn gardens. Sadly, he had badly sliced his thumb in the weeks previously so his planned demonstration will wait for another year. We hope your thumb is well on the mend John.

In December Kymm Queen joined us in the main hall to make our garlands and wreaths. Once again, she and her "apprentice" were a great help and source of ideas and a very sociable evening was enjoyed by all. My garland is still going strong outside on the bench. I have taken the Christmas trimmings off but it will stay there for some time yet.



In 2022 we hope to have a meal, possibly at The Grapes in mid Feb. Our first for two years. Then we will have an AGM ideas evening in March followed by an evening of information from Roger Burnett in April.

You are welcome to join us - usually, the first Tuesday of the month 7-8.30 pm in the Village Hall Committee Room. £1.50 per person.

The final note acknowledges the death of Kay (Hill). She joined us at Sowers and Growers on many occasions and was brave enough to try some of our garden safari last summer even though she had become very unwell. Thankfully many of our members were able to attend her funeral. Our thoughts and good wishes are with Kay's family and we will miss her.

*Fiona Dean, Secretary*

- Dingbat answer – 'See eye to eye'



## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

This year the Queen will be celebrating her platinum jubilee marking 70 years since she ascended to the throne.

In many parts of the nation communities will be coming together to celebrate this amazing achievement and plans are already underway to ensure that our community celebrates this in an appropriate way, as we have in previous milestone years. It is envisaged that the village will hold a celebration event during the bank holiday weekend at the beginning of June.

A steering group is being formed to help plan how the community can best come together to celebrate. More communication will follow in due course but please keep an eye on the Slingsby Village Website and further Triangle articles for more information.

*Paul Hogarth*

Celebrations were held on the playing field for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Here's a reminder - the first photo shows Kath and Geoff Miller cutting the special village Jubilee cake. They were asked to cut the cake as the oldest couple in the village at the time - Geoff was 90 in 2012.



Decorated hats were worn by many – this picture is Lily Baker (formerly Lily Wright) who returned to the village for the celebrations.

*Ed*



## Slingsby Produce Show 2022

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Last year's very successful Produce Show proved such a boost for villagers in these strange times, so please make a note in your diary for this year's show, which will take place in Slingsby Village Hall on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

These village traditions are so important to maintain, so come along and see the inspiring displays of crafts, flowers, vegetables, cakes, photographs, children's handwriting etc! Even better - why don't you enter?

More details will appear in the next issue of The Triangle, due out at the beginning of April.



*Our impressive trophy collection*

## Slingsby Produce Show AGM

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Our Produce Show AGM will take place in Slingsby Village Hall at 6pm on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

We warmly invite anyone to come along and join us. New faces and ideas always helpful.



*Setting up in preparation for the show*

*Carol Thornley  
Treasurer*





Many thanks to Chris Cooper for a rather wonderful back page. Chris tells The Triangle that he took this photo last summer, using a drone. Perhaps you can pick out your home?

You have probably seen the similar village photo on the website, taken in 2002. Two main differences are that this photo includes our newest development at the old Richardsons Yard, and the redevelopment of the old Co-op/Hutton Bros site. Maybe you can spot others.