

THE TRIANGLE

Serving South Holme, Slingsby and Fryton

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Aug/Sept 2022

Three generations of one family



Oct/Nov copy to Gill Baker, Birch Cottage, The Lawns, tel: 01653 628479 By **Saturday 17th Sept** at the latest please or e-mail: thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk Price to non-subscribers £1.50

Future Development in Slingsby

Please read main article on pages 4 & 5

A public meeting was held in the Village Hall on 23rd May about proposed development sites in Slingsby being put forward by Castle Howard to Ryedale District Council.

The strength of feeling at that meeting and in the village generally suggested it would be helpful to discuss the best ways that villagers could make their views about the proposals known to Ryedale District Council, especially if they did not wish to go online.

A small group of people (Paul Hogarth, Rachel Hogarth, Kate Giles, David Wells, Jon Boots, Gill Baker) met on 19th June as a starting point. Between us we had some knowledge, local interest, and past involvement with the Village Design Statement. Pages 4 and 5 give an outcome of that meeting.

It is hoped that in due course many others will get involved and further action to support Slingsby can be agreed. If you are interested in being part of a group seeking to undertake further consultation in the village and assist with informing future planning proposals/development schemes please get in touch via the Sports Club, Parish Council or via the Triangle/Website.

Gill Baker, (co-editor)

Subscriptions:

We still have a few subscriptions yet to be paid. Unless we receive payment soon we will stop delivering to the addresses who have not yet paid. It would be a shame if anyone missed out due to an oversight, so here are the details again for paying online.

Account Name: Slingsby Website & Newsletter
Sort Code 40-31-08

Account No. 21512188

Your Reference : THIS MUST INCLUDE YOUR HOUSE NAME/NUMBER AND ROAD

Many thanks.

Jo Breckon

49th Slingsby Produce Show

17th Sept 2022

As I write this, the sun is shining, the sky is blue and the temperature has at last risen. Hooray!

This weather will certainly encourage the vegetables, flowers and of course the famous sunflowers and pumpkins to bloom and grow, ready for our great village Produce Show, which takes place in the Slingsby Village Hall on 17th Sept.

Nearer the time Schedules and Entry Forms will be delivered through every letterbox in Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme. These show all ~80 classes, including photography, handicrafts, children's classes, vegetables, flowers, home-made jams and cakes, so there must be a class there for everyone to enter!

Last year we had an exceptional number of entries, so we really hope that we can do equally well, or even better this year.

It's also such a treat to see all the handwriting that the school children from Slingsby School produce – so important still in these texting etc. times.

Also of course the delicious home-made cakes that our committee and supporters make for afternoon teas.

So please do come along and support and enjoy this traditional annual event. You never know – you may even win a fabulous prize in our very popular raffle.

Carol Thornley
(treasurer)



YOUR TRIANGLE DELIVERY CREW VOLUNTEERS

FRYTON:	Mick Singleton
SOUTH HOLME:	Fiona Farnell
SLINGSBY:	
Aspen Way pt/Green Dyke Ln	Kate Curtois
Aspen Way part 2	Kate Stansfield
Balksyde	Sandra Dalgleish
Cavendish Court	Jo Plaskitt
Church Lane and High Street	John Breckon
Malton Road	Lynn Wilson
Porch Farm Close	Linda Chapman
Railway St. (West)	Angela Hindby
Railway St. (East) north	John Clayton
Railway St. (East) south	Pat Thompson
Sycamore Close	Philip Jackson
The Green	Maurag Carmichael
The Green Crescent	Nancy Coates
The Lawns	Nick Witt
POSTAL DELIVERY:	Jo Breckon

The Triangle production team:

Co Editors: David Thornley and Gill Baker
(alternating)

Distribution and Advertising: Jo Breckon
Treasurer: Maurag Carmichael

Contact details for all the Triangle team:

thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk

Please send us articles, comments, photos, news, ideas etc. to this address. *By using this address, you don't have to know who is the editor of the next edition, as the email will automatically forward to the correct person!*

Contact details for Slingsby Village website:

admin@slingsbyvillage.co.uk

Website: www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk

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.

Please remember that ALL the website and Triangle team are volunteers! Further offers of help are always welcome.

Ed

Request for information

The Triangle received this request from the daughter of ex-Slingsby teacher, Ann Pearson. Can anyone help please? Any information should be sent to thetriangle@slingsbyvillage.co.uk and I will forward it to Clare, who might then get in touch direct. *Ed.*

"Hello

I was chatting with my mum, who is now 82, about her memories of teaching at Slingsby School. She taught with Jim Gavigan. I googled his name and came to your magazine - The Triangle. I thought it might be worth reaching out just in case anyone could let me know how he is and if any of the former teachers remember my mum. She is well but not as mobile as she'd like to be. If there was any possibility of bringing news to her, it would be wonderful.

Thank you so much"

Clare Smurthwaite

In appreciation

Malcolm Richards would like to thank very much the person who found his walking stick and handed it in to the Sports Club. He is delighted to have it back as he can now enjoy his village walks again with his favourite stick.

Shelagh Richards

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Proposed Development Sites in Slingsby

Call to Action For All !

Voice your Opinions on Proposed Sites.

As many of you will be aware, Castle Howard have submitted several sites to Ryedale District Council as part of the Local Plan review. These sites, whilst only in the initial stages of the planning phase, could result in the development of 300 houses in Slingsby, almost doubling the size of the village. It is really important that the Slingsby community and residents voice their opinions, even at this early stage.

If the proposed sites went ahead, along with the 70 plus houses already further along in the planning process (The Balk site and the Castle Farm and Heights Farm site), it would have a significant impact on Slingsby as a village. Some of these impacts may be negative but there is also an opportunity to identify some positive possible outcomes of such a considerable change to the village. Therefore, it is vital that as many people as possible have their say.

Sending a letter to the planning team at Ryedale District Council will help to get your message across and the more letters they get, the louder Slingsby's voice will be heard, so please do put pen to paper!

It's important that you make your comments individual and relevant to what you think, rather than everyone just sending in the same letter. Some topics that might be of particular interest to you and your family could include:

- Impact on existing amenities, such as school and sports club, play area and tennis courts which are much loved by the community and would not be as accessible or secure if located/re-located elsewhere
- Impact on existing infrastructures such as drains, wi-fi and roads, especially concerns about traffic, access points, pollution and impact on health; concerns about accidents on the B1257
- Impact on the immediate local environment, including heritage such as the castle and church but also wildlife, trees and plants
- Impact on flooding especially from new houses into the Beck and impact on Fryton, The Lawns

and Railway Street or from any development on the other side of the B1257 on the entire village

- Alignment with the Slingsby Village Design Statement especially protected views identified by the communities of uninterrupted views between Slingsby and Fryton and from the B1257 down High Street
- Impact on Slingsby as a whole, how would significant additional houses change Slingsby?
- The need for affordable or housing association homes for local families and youngsters
- The potential impact of additional second homes or holiday homes
- The need for additional amenities, such as shops, doctors' surgeries etc if the above went ahead.
- And any other impacts that are relevant to you.

The full details of the proposed development sites in Slingsby can be found here; <https://www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk/news/review-of-the-ryedale-plan/>

But in short, site 298 covers the playing field and the land west adjacent to the playing field. Sites 301A, 301B and 301C are the sites south of the village over the main road. For further information visit:

<https://www.ryedale.gov.uk/information/planning/future-planning/>

And a link once again to what people in Slingsby said mattered to them in 2016 in the **Village Design Statement:**

[https://democracy.ryedale.gov.uk/documents/s28946/2%20-%20Appendix](https://democracy.ryedale.gov.uk/documents/s28946/2%20-%20Appendix%201%20Slingsby%20SHolme%20Fryton%20VDS%20PD%20Aug%202016.pdf)

[1 Slingsby SHolme Fryton VDS S PD Aug 2016.pdf](https://democracy.ryedale.gov.uk/documents/s28946/2%20-%20Appendix%201%20Slingsby%20SHolme%20Fryton%20VDS%20PD%20Aug%202016.pdf) For Triangle readers, this link is included on the Slingsby Village Website.

You can email your views to: localplan@ryedale.gov.uk but a good old-fashioned letter often adds a bit more weight. The address to send your letter to is below but please reference the local plan and the Slingsby site numbers.

Planning and Regulatory Services
Ryedale District Council
Ryedale House
Malton YO17 7HH

Continued overleaf . . .

continued Alternatively, you could pop your letter in the post-box at the Slingsby Sports Club and mark it 'RDC Planning' and it will get hand delivered.

At the moment, the exact timescales are a little vague but we are assuming the next stage of development meetings at RDC will take place in late summer, so the more letters we can get in by the middle of August, the better!

Look out for more information about what Slingsby can do as a community to play our part in this potentially significant development in our village.

The Trolley

One of the more unusual rail movements which occasionally passed through Slingsby station was the Engineers Rail Motor, commonly known as the Trolley. It was used to convey permanent way staff (platelayers) and materials to various sites of work on the single line as an alternative to road transport where access to the track by that method wasn't feasible.

The Trolley which traversed the Malton - Slingsby - Hovingham Spa section was usually the one based at Malton. However, another Trolley was kept at Gilling which covered the lines to Pilmoor and Kirbymoorside, and was also sometimes required to venture towards Slingsby if the situation warranted it.

Given the sparse train service in the last few years of the line's existence, it wasn't too difficult to arrange for the Trolley to occupy the signalling block sections of the single line for an appreciable length of time without causing delay to the freight service, particularly as there were "shut-in" facilities at Hovingham Spa, Slingsby and Amotherby where the Trolley could be safely locked in the relevant siding whilst the freight train went by. The Trolley even had its own special bell signal on the block instruments - 2 pause 1 pause 4. Back in the days when traffic on the Ryedale branches was significantly greater, a system was in operation whereby a Trolley could be manoeuvred clear of

the single line at strategically placed locations on what was known as a run-off at right angles to the track. By inserting a flex obtained from the signalman into a box there it signified that the section was clear, releasing the token instruments. Trains could, therefore, run safely without interruption.

On Tuesday 14th May 1963, as a result of orders from the District Engineer, the Gilling Trolley was sent to Pickering. By that time, being a Tuesday, the freight didn't run on that day. Consequently, the Block posts had to be opened specially, and the Trolley driver instructed to approach the minor level crossings at extreme caution in case the female crossing keepers were caught unawares, although they should have heard the bells located both inside and outside their respective cottages. Records show that the Trolley went through Slingsby at approximately 11:40am.

During the last week of the line's existence west of Amotherby, a Trolley re-appeared in the Gilling area. On the 5th August 1964, two days before the last train, it can be seen in the accompanying photograph showing the two separate parallel single lines between Gilling and just before Cawton Gatehouse, with the Trolley heading towards Helmsley; taken from the freight train from Malton which is heading towards Gilling in the opposite direction.

Charles Allenby



Photo from the Charles Allenby collection

Slingsby Ladies Group

At our May meeting we welcomed Glennis Whyte from The National Trust. She gave us a talk about The Strange and Ghostly Tales of the Treasurer's House in York. The house has been home to many famous figures and the last private owner was Frank Green. In 1930 he left the house and other properties to The National Trust and since that time both staff and visitors have reported many sightings of women and also Roman soldiers. They say that you can smell Frank's cigar smoke if he is unhappy when things happen which he doesn't like, such as moving the furniture to a different position. It was a very interesting talk which we all enjoyed.

For the Jubilee village celebrations Slingsby Ladies were represented by a display of hats. These ranged from a hat worn to meet the Queen to a favourite hat to do the gardening. Thank you to everyone who loaned us their hats for the occasion.

In June, we had the first of our full day outings. We spent the morning in Northallerton, shopping and making the obligatory visit to Betty's! In the afternoon we visited Kiplin Hall which we all loved.

If you would like to join our Group, why not come to a meeting at The Methodist School Room and see if it's something you might want to join. You would be most welcome.

Liz Senior

Slingsby Local History Group.



Slingsby Local History Group at Markenfield Hall on July 13th
Photo by Paul Lange

As members will be aware, Margaret Mackinder, who founded the Group and has run it for about 15 years, is in hospital at the moment and unable to participate. We sincerely wish that Margaret makes a full recovery from her illness. It has been decided to form a small committee to continue the running of the group for the foreseeable future, rather than one person. Volunteers for this committee should make themselves known to Kate Giles.

Wednesday 13th July.

We held our annual outing to Markenfield Hall, near Ripon, which was an excellent half-day and extremely interesting. (see photo)

Saturday 6th August – Byland Abbey

The trip to Byland Abbey with a guided tour by English Heritage volunteers has been re-booked for this date, after the Abbey had to cancel the last one. As before, the idea is to car-share and leave Slingsby at about 10.30 am and book for coffee at the Abbey Inn for about 11.15 am, as the tour starts at mid-day. We had about ten people booked on this before and they will have received an email about this. Please will you reconfirm urgently if you wish to come on this new date. We can add to the group and if you would like to come and car drivers welcome as before. Parking at the Abbey is very limited and car-sharing encouraged. The tour is free but we pay for our coffee, cake etc.

Thursday 22nd September - a Map and History study session.

Following our successful map session in May we shall do a study of the next major map of Slingsby, published at the end of the 19th Century. We look at how things changed from the 17th century maps and look at what can be learned from the field names and how the land enclosures developed. Chris Churches and Kate Giles.

at 7.30 pm. Village Hall - tbc

Thursday 20th October – still to be arranged.

Thursday 17th November - What's in a Name?

Join a small group of volunteers from Malton Museum to play this illustrated game of guessing historical facts led by Christine Pietrowsky who visited us earlier this year to talk about pubs. 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Saturday 3rd December – Coffee and Mince pies

With more local seasonal tales.
10.30 am - venue to be confirmed.

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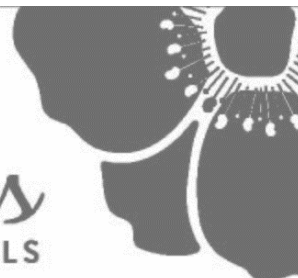


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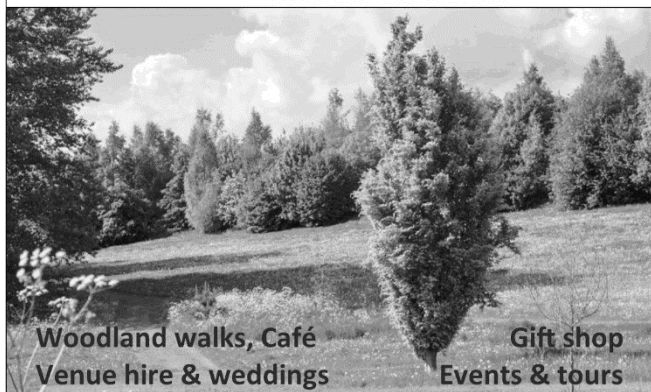
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Sowers and Growers

The group has visited two gardens in June and July, and been lucky to have super days for both. First, we met in a beautiful and very private, garden in Slingsby and heard about its development over the past few years. Tea and cake were enjoyed on the patio.

In July we were privileged to be the first gardening group for over 30 years to visit the Kirkham Hall

gardens. We were given a tour by head gardener, John Foxton, and for this special visit were joined by staff from Yorkshire Lavender. Among other things we heard about the difficulties of gardening on a steep slope, but the views over the Derwent Valley and Kirkham Priory gave the garden a wonderful setting, as shown in the picture below.

In August we are back in the Village Hall for a flower arranging demonstration with the bonus of a raffle to win the arrangements created. If you are interested in joining the group, get in touch with our Chair, Janet on 628625.

Gill Baker



Extract from Coneysthorpe newspaper of 1931

August 1931 The Women's Outing – "it is an anxious business arranging an outing in a small village during a wet summer, but all went off well. We can get no coherent account of what took place except that the travellers had several meals and finished up at the pictures. They arrived home very late and announced that next time they would be later still."

Judith Sladden

Slingsby School

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another academic year. It feels like it has gone by incredibly quickly, but no wonder when every day is so jam packed! Day to day we are working hard at "catching up" on the education lost over the last two years with extra interventions- mainly in maths, phonics, reading and comprehension. It is no mean feat with only so many hours in the day, but we have taken on extra teaching assistants to help facilitate this.

We are also now taking part in many more activities out of the classroom too which are equally as important. The lifting of Covid- 19 restrictions in February enabled us to recommence full participation in local sports events which has been brilliant for children. We joined the Malton Community Sports Centre Primary Games again this year which facilitates local primary school year groups coming together to compete in events. Our children have thoroughly enjoyed participating in cross country, netball, football, rounders, circuits, dodgeball and other multi-skills sessions. Slingsby School was delighted to bring home both the Rounders Trophy and the Dodgeball Trophy! We have also taken part in the Norton College cricket festival and Derwent Swimming Club gala.

Another new addition to our timetable is our partnership with the Richard Shephard Music Foundation from York for our music lessons and choir, which is significantly enriching our Music Curriculum. They also gave our Key Stage 2 (Class 3 and 4) children the exciting opportunity to join other schools at York Minster for national Make Music Day where they sang 'Mr Blue Sky', 'Don't Stop Me Now', and 'Count On Me' along with children from across the world.

We loved being involved in the village May Day Celebrations this year and it was fantastic watching the children dancing around the Maypole on May Day after many weeks of rehearsals. The scarecrows were all brilliant. A massive thank you to FOSS for all their hard work not only for the May Day weekend, but all their fundraising throughout the year which is so incredibly valuable for school.

We all thoroughly enjoyed celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. Our amazing cook, Mrs Saunders, provided a special Jubilee

picnic for all the children which we ate outside in the sunshine listening to the National Anthem; followed by the planting of two trees in our top playground, an apple and a pear, as part of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy campaign.

We are sad to be saying farewell to our Year 6 children. There are eighteen Year 6's leaving us this year, which is our biggest ever leavers contingent- most of whom have been with us since reception! Their celebrations have included a day at Flamingo Land, a meal at Florios, a BBQ lunch on The Green and a Leavers Assembly on the last day of term. We wish them all the very best of luck at their new schools, we know they will fly high.

Thank you to Mr Smith and all the staff for their continued hard work and dedication to our thriving village school and we are very much looking forward to welcoming our eleven new reception children in September.

Slingsby School Governors



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Slingsby Sports and Social Club

Summer is in full swing and the sports club is busy with lots of things going on! It is always great to see people sitting outside the club enjoying the sunshine, a few sociable drinks and soaking in the fantastic views looking out towards Fryton, over to the moors and across to the Church with the setting of Slingsby Castle adding a fantastic backdrop to the club.

We are very fortunate with the location of the club and the fact that it has become such a central part of the village community, with events such as the school sports day and the family fun day and duck race such central parts of the village life.

The Jubilee Weekend was perhaps one of the most amazing examples of what can happen when the field is utilised for the benefit of the whole community. The weekend was an incredible success and thanks go to the amazing range of volunteers, who helped out over the course of the celebrations which brought together so many different parts of the community and offered something for everyone.

The fun sports day during the jubilee celebrations, followed by live music, was a key feature of the weekend and plans are in place to hold that as an Annual Event. Watch this space.....

We are also very mindful of the challenges that many people face, particularly in relation to the cost of living and the importance of having a social hub that is affordable for people. We have never charged members of the community for the use of the sports facilities, for example the tennis courts, which is something that we are incredibly proud of, and providing those services free to members of our local community and visitors to the area is something that we will always do.

Thanks to the amazing volunteers who support the running of the club and help out behind the bar we are able to offer drinks at a low cost. Despite increases in the cost price of drinks, we have taken the decision not to increase bar prices as we want to continue to make the club as accessible as possible to as many people as possible. So, for example, the cost of a pint of beer will remain at

£2.40 and cost of a gin and tonic will remain at £2.50 and a bottle of wine will remain at £8.

As we look forward towards the rest of the summer, we are excited to have a lot of things happening, including celebrations of Yorkshire Day on the 1st August and International Beer Day on the 5th August. We also have a Festival of Cricket towards the end of August, with Slingsby holding a friendly match against touring team Gregson Cricket Club on Saturday 27th August and the Annual Dave Calvert Memorial Cricket match on Sunday 28th August. Both days promise to be fantastic social events, so feel free to pop along and enjoy the day.

We also have our usual First Friday of the Month Charity Quiz nights, third Friday of the month friendly darts and dominoes night as well as regular games of bingo on Saturday evenings. The ever-popular car boot sales will continue throughout the summer.

We are also absolutely delighted to announce that we will be showing Sky Sports in the club utilising the big screen to show live sport including Football from the Premier League and the English Football League, cricket including England Internationals and The Hundred, Formula One, PDC darts and both Rugby Union and Rugby League etc.

We have significantly increased the number of volunteers who help out behind the bar, which has meant that we are able to open the club more often. We are incredibly indebted to all of our volunteers.

The club is a resource that can be used for the benefit of the local community and the more volunteers we have to help out behind the bar, the more often we are able to open the club for people to utilise. So, if you would like to help out then please get in touch, full training will be provided!

And always remember that new members are always welcome so feel free to pop along anytime that the club is open and become part of a great social environment.

Paul Hogarth

Platinum Jubilee celebrations around Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme, June 2022

A selection of the photographs taken and sent to The Triangle follows.

Electronic copies of any photographs are available (free of charge) on request













Fiona Farnell planting the commemorative tree









Lots of Fryton residents got together on Saturday 28th May to put up the 400 metres of bunting kindly provided by the Parish Council. The work was accompanied by cups of tea and bacon and sausage butties, cooked on a BBQ! It was a great get together with passers-by admiring the bunting and being provided with a cup of tea if they wanted one! A lovely sunny morning and a good neighbourly get-together.
Colin Douthwaite





Slingsby School celebrations



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All Saints Church update

Developments continue to find the right solutions to upgrade our heating and install a kitchen and toilet in All Saints. This is taking time, as finding good solutions which meet the Church of England's aspiration to be carbon net zero (balanced against getting the right permissions in place) are challenging, to say the least. We have a new Diocesan heating adviser finally in place and will be seeking her advice shortly. In the short term we are looking for grants and other support with the west window restoration, and a possible overhaul of our wonderful Harrison organ.

As many people will be aware, Margaret Mackinder, who has overseen all our fabric matters for many years, has now stepped back from the PCC and is very unwell at the moment. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family. In the meantime, for any enquiries, please contact either the churchwarden Ray Watson raywatson645@gmail.com or PCC Secretary, Kate Giles kategilesslingsby@gmail.com.

The Future of the Street Benefice

There are also big discussions happening about the future of our Benefice. As readers will be aware, we are currently in 'Interregnum'. We have been told that in order to get a new Rector we need to find £87,000 a year between our 5 parishes (Slingsby, Hovingham and Scackleton, Coneysthorpe and Barton le Street, Appleton le Street and Amotherby). We should stress this is not what the Rector is paid, but rather a combination of a modest salary (or stipend) and a substantial contribution (almost half of this) to what are called 'pooled' costs for the Diocese/Church of England. We should also note that we do not receive anything back for the maintenance or repair of our buildings.

You might not be surprised to hear that we are therefore in the position of not being able to afford a new Rector! We are not alone. A wider consultation across the Diocese of York is leading to some big proposals for change. What are the options being offered to us? We are currently being offered what is called a 'house for duty' clergy person for 4 years which means they get a house but do not draw a salary. The condition of the Rectory in Amotherby needs work and so it is

proposed that our Rector lives in Terrington, which is part of the Howardian Benefice (including Bulmer and Welburn). Longer term, an amalgamation with parts of the Howardian Benefice seems to make some sense, and we will be exploring ways of connecting with these churches over the coming months and years.

If anyone would like more information, please contact churchwarden Ray or Kate. The Area Dean, Revd Chris Wingfield will host a 'surgery' at Sand Hutton on Saturday 23rd July 10-11.30am, which is open to all members to attend.

Free passes to York Minster

There are free passes to visit York Minster for use by members of the parish, which can be found in a plastic wallet on the notice board at the back of church. This year they have come in the form of a .pdf to download and print and you should be able to help yourself to one to keep and use. If there are none left, please e-mail kategilesslingsby@gmail.com

Kate Giles

All Saints Future Events

Saturday 24th September in the church - a visit from the award-winning Harmonia choir, a not to be missed event. Tickets which include wine and canapés are £5 and available from church members.

Saturday 8th October - an Italian evening in the village hall with a quiz and music.

Early November - the postponed nearly new and designer clothing and accessories sale, date and venue to be advised.

Christmas Festivities to include a parish Christmas lunch, a concert by Terrington Singers and a Christmas Tree Festival (last year's was such a success (dates and times to be advised)

Tickets and information for all events from: Chrysa Apps 07779 333489 or chrysa47@outlook.com or Anita Brewer 07935 830476 or anita-brewer@outlook.com or Liz Senior 07781 417007 lizsenior@hotmail.com or Diane Watson 07557 850383 or rdwatson25@hotmail.com

Chrysa Apps

Allotment News

It's the middle of July as I write this and the middle of a hot dry spell. We're harvesting plenty of produce at the moment. Our potatoes should keep us going for several months. The variety we grow is called Charlotte. It has a lovely taste and a nice buttery texture. Usually the tubers grow quite large, but the lack of water during this growing season means they are probably only about half their usual size. One good thing about the lack of rain though is that at the moment they haven't been touched by slugs. Some years they become riddled with holes. We're also harvesting lettuce, French beans, beetroot, carrot and the usual glut of courgettes. Blackcurrants blueberries strawberries brambles and red currants are fruiting on the site as well.

In our orchard the morello cherry may have won itself a reprieve. We were going to dig it up because in previous years we couldn't manage to pick any ripe fruit before the birds stripped the tree. This year however the tree has been loaded with lovely ripe cherries. It looked a picture brimming with red fruits and so we may give it a year more. It needs pruning back though because I've let it get too big.

The orchard also looks much better now I've got rows of cordon trees down the middle. I'm trying plums as well as apples and pears as cordons. We'll have to see whether I can keep them small enough to work as cordons. The step over trees around the orchard look as untidy as always before their summer pruning in August. I try and use the modified Lorette system as suggested by the RHS. This involves pruning back each side shoot on the tree to 3 leaves and then in subsequent years back to one leaf. It usually takes me several days to do all the trees, but once done give the (false) impression I know what I'm doing.

In the greenhouse we are picking lots of cucumbers and the tomatoes have just started ripening. My peppers, however, look terrible. They have been undermined by a mole running through the bed where they are planted. I'm not sure they'll recover to produce any sort of crop.

If you are interested in having an allotment, please get in touch with Brian Clarke on 628625.

Terry Baker

Play Area update

Slow progress is being made towards the erection of our shelter on the Play Area due to the challenges of assembling a team for laying the bases, but we are hopeful we will get there soon! As soon as one is erected we can draw down funding for another, we hope, from the AONB and find match funding for the remaining costs.

We do desperately need some parents and users of the play area to get involved in regular maintenance please. Tasks include grass and hedge cutting. If someone could volunteer to get a group together for a few hours regularly, around use of the Play Area or tennis courts, perhaps, this would be very helpful.

Similarly, we would like to see ideas about further equipment and facilities developed by the people who use the play area regularly and have the energy and enthusiasm to apply for some grant funding.

Please contact Play Area Chair Anita Brewer for more information at anita-brewer@outlook.com

Kate Giles
for Anita Brewer



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Tim Daniels

The Triangle is sorry to announce the sudden death at the age of 52 of Tim Daniels, who was brought up in Slingsby. Tim was the son of John and the late Liz Daniels of The Cottage, Railway Street. Our condolences go to the family at this difficult time.



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Chapel News

Following the excitement of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in the village, including the wonderful service in the Parish Church, we are now well into our summer activities and what glorious weather we are having as I write this. After all the problems we have all had to face over recent months and years with the pandemic, political upheaval, the cost-of-living crisis etc., we are ready for something good in our lives. With holiday time approaching and great summer weather I hope we can all relax a bit and enjoy some of the good things of life. I am reminded of the words of a very popular hymn...

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art.*

Events coming up over the summer months...

Sunday August 14th at 10-30am. We are having A United Open Air Service on the village Green. Let's hope the good weather continues, but if it is wet we shall go inside.



Sunday 18th September at 10-30am. Our joint Harvest Festival in The Methodist Chapel. This will be taken by Mr Terence Maw, a farmer from Thornton Dale. After the service there will be a Harvest Lunch in the Schoolroom to which all are invited.

Wed. 21st September. We shall start Soupa lunch again in the Schoolroom at 12 noon. Soup, sandwiches and a pudding and tea or coffee. All

are welcome. We shall continue to do Home Delivery for anyone with limited mobility but we do encourage all who are able to join us in the schoolroom where we can enjoy friendship and fellowship as well as the excellent lunch.

We give you a warm invitation to join us at these events and also at our regular Sunday Services in which we try to make our worship livelier and more meaningful and especially enjoy the Worship led by our Worship Group of Audrey, Karen & Liz, they really are very good in fact we call them our "Slingsby Angels."

Come and try our Café Style Worship once every 2 months in the Methodist Schoolroom where the service is very relaxed and informal but also very worthwhile. Look out for the notices about it.

Stephen & Rachel Prest
(Tel 628277)

Winning tractor

Michael Dixon, of Slingsby, holding his cup and rosette for the best vintage tractor, a David Brown DB980 from 1960, at Malton Show. The photograph was taken later in Mick's garden by Kevan Wilkinson. Mick enters the tractor every year in the charity run in memory of a former friend and tractor enthusiast.



Oil Consortium

Last dates for orders are 15th Sept; 1st Nov; 1st Dec. Please email/ring Terry Baker before the deadline slingsbyoilconsortium@gmail.com or phone 01653 628479

Terry Baker

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Fieldfares and their friends

To the west of Slingsby, heading towards Fryton, there are a number of fields belonging to Castle Farm, Cherrygarth Farm and the Stud. One of the fields (Site No. 298) has been submitted by Castle Howard Estate Ltd for consideration for residential building. A public right of way crosses three of these fields which provide valuable habitats for a number of species (all protected by the Countryside and Wildlife Act 1981). This is a **small** selection of some of the birds which inhabit this area (plus their conservation status Green, Amber or Red). Those with an **asterisk** * are a protected species listed in the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act (2006).

Fieldfares (Anglo-Saxon 'feldware' – traveller of the fields) are part of the Thrush family but bigger in size and darker than the Song Thrush. They are a 'Schedule 1' bird in the 1981 Act. During autumn/winter months a very large number of these striking birds call the fields between the two villages home. They have a distinctive call and will devour any stray fallen apples! They are wary of humans and will fly away noisily en masse as you approach, landing a short distance away. They can be seen perched in the trees that run along the edge of Castle Farm/the Stud (the southern boundary of Site No. 298) [Red].*

The area offers good food sources for finches including the strikingly coloured **Bullfinches*** together with **Goldfinches** (and occasionally even **Greenfinches**). They are often seen in pairs as they peck at seeds and thistles. You might even see them close up when they're pecking at dandelion seedheads [Amber, Green and Red respectively]!

Yellow Wagtails have been visible in recent years between Slingsby & Fryton (they nest on the ground and seem to like fields of potatoes!). You will spot their clear call, their bobbing tail and unusual, swift, staccato like motion when in flight. The RSPB's website lists guidance about how to improve their nesting conditions [Red].*

House Martins sweep across the skies and crops in search of food and can usually be seen darting between the acrobatic **Swifts** on a warm evening. Their nests are clearly visible under the eaves and they too perch and chatter in the trees that run along the edge of Castle Farm/the Stud (the southern boundary of Site No. 298) [Red].

Everyone is familiar with the **House Sparrows & Tree Sparrows** which skip around courtyards, gardens and fields searching for seeds and titbits. They enjoy messing about in the farmyards (dust bath anyone?!) [both sparrows Red & *].

Hidden amongst the Fieldfares you'll spot modest numbers of the feisty **Mistle Thrushes** [Red] and **Redwings** (a 'Schedule 1' bird in the 1981 Act) [Amber]. Look out for the flash of red under the latter's wing.

Perhaps the most emblematic birds of summer are the **Skylarks** which inhabit and breed successfully in this area. On an early morning walk to/from Fryton you'll see the males ascend into the sky where they sing their hearts out! Research has shown that small areas of field left unsown within winter cereals can enhance the nesting opportunities and food sources for these flying choristers! [Red].*

They may not be as noisy as the Swifts but **Swallows** can always be seen skimming the crops in all the fields between Slingsby & Fryton at great speed on a summer's day and evening. As they prepare to migrate, they congregate on the telephone wires throughout the villages [Green].

Swifts are perhaps the most familiar summer visitors in our villages and surrounding fields. Resident for about twelve weeks each year, they nest in our houses and dart across the skies above the same fields in search of food [Red].

Finally, the **Yellowhammer** which is often seen in greater numbers along the old railway line but is also evident in the fields between the two villages. They seem to enjoy perching in the hedges but always fly away as you approach! [Red].*

Planning guidance lists how wild birds must be considered/monitored if development on or adjacent to such areas is likely to disturb them: Wild birds: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

See www.slingsbyvillage.co.uk for information about local birds, www.rspb.org.uk, www.bto.org and specifically the list of **Birds of Conservation Concern 5** (2021) showing at risk birds in the red/amber lists: [bocc-5-a5-4pp-single-pages.pdf \(bto.org\)](#)

Two dog walkers and birdwatchers

Brickyard Bulletin

Bahhh it's a bit yat! (For the unfamiliar, I will translate "Golly, isn't the weather warm"). Weather extremes are nothing new, but they are making farming challenging right now. As we near the cereal harvest, winter sown crops are mostly past the point of danger (winter beans on light land being the exception, they're not enjoying the heat at all) but our spring crops though, are suffering. Oats, beans, barley, beet and potatoes are all pretty desperate for a drink to avoid a yield penalty. Our heavier land can hold moisture quite well, but is cracking quite deeply now (over a foot deep) which ought to at least save us a few quid in subsoiling later this back end. The crack in the photo was at least 15" deep before the tape measure bottomed.



We can irrigate some of our root crops, though abstraction license constraints, water availability and the sheer cost of applying it (diesel alone is 150% more expensive than a year ago) is quite restricting.

If you have walked along the railway line recently, you will have seen in the potatoes eight little white objects standing in the crop? These catch the water from either rain or irrigation, and beam the information to a satellite, from where a computer model analyses the data to schedule the irrigation required. The two rows are there because the irrigator is set up to apply different amounts of water in different zones (to ascertain the optimum amount to apply to produce the best crop). Below the ground on each one is a probe which records the moisture level in the soil at 10, 20, 30 and 40cm depth, and together with a temperature sensor and crop canopy information, the model produces the graphs below on the next page.

The top graph shows the moisture at the different depths (the spikes being where irrigation or rain has occurred). The second graph shows the field status and guides us when to irrigate. We have had

some reliability issues with some of our equipment, and that alongside the high temperatures contributed to the graph hitting the red zone this week. The third graph shows crop water uptake in red, and water applied in blue – suffice to say that we're barely keeping up at present.

This technology in theory allows us to use water (and fuel) more efficiently. In practice, as dry as it is, we must just keep the irrigators going as best we can. Windy days and very high temperatures mean that sometimes we can only water at night, when it is invariably calmer and cooler – so my apologies if you can hear our (or indeed Stuart Prest's!) pumps on a still night – normally we'd be finished irrigating not far into August (let's hope so) The diesel cost alone means they won't be on for any longer than they possibly can be.

This particular field is one of three we have as part of a trial program for McCain looking at different cultivations, early dying complex, nematode control, water efficiency and nitrogen level efficacy. The variety is Innovator and the resulting crop is destined for McDonald's fries in March and April next year. There is another similar trial in Norfolk, and a third in Shropshire. We will host some open days later in August for other McCain potato growers to visit and observe things, as we get closer to McCain's target of 100% of potatoes being grown in a regenerative agriculture system by 2030 – a tall order by anyone's standards.

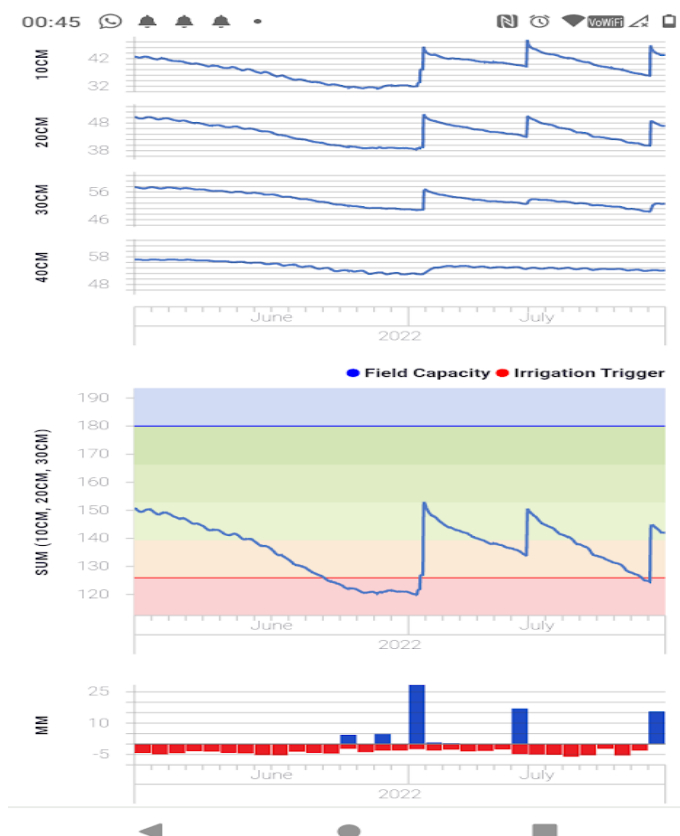
For those unfamiliar with the term, Regenerative agriculture is essentially moving less soil and using less chemical inputs to produce crops of a similar standard to conventionally grown ones. Other contributing elements include protecting the soil all year round (with things like cover and companion crops), livestock integration (in our case pig muck) and plant diversity (via insect strips, margins, companion plants and a wide and varied crop rotation. This allows our soil health to improve, to enhance its capability to feed the (increasing) population of the future, and further protect the flora and fauna while doing so. It is an exciting, if not a bit challenging journey to be on in these volatile times that we are in right now.

At this time of year we plan our cropping for the following year. I will expand next time, but it's

looking like less oats, similar beans, beet and wheat, a few less potatoes, a bit more beet and maybe the return (after 12 years) of oilseed rape! Next week we will start combining barley, continue preparing for back end...and a bit more irrigating!

Keep well everybody (and stay safe in this sun)

Andrew Wilson



Graphs referred to in Brickyard Bulletin above.
Photo by Andrew Wilson

Stephen's Farming Column

It is a glorious sunny day with temperatures forecast to hit around 30C which is great for holiday makers but not so good for farming, as many crops are beginning to show signs of drought stress. It should be a good week for the Great Yorkshire Show in the coming week and it is wonderful to see most of the local shows getting back to normality after the restrictions of the Covid epidemic. Rachel & I attended Malton Show at the end of June at Scampston and it was very successful with a good crowd there and plenty of animals to see. One local success was Mike Dixon who won a cup for his David Brown vintage tractor. Well done Mike! (see item elsewhere).

Driving round the farm recently there were many interesting things to see. In one of my plantations up on the heights there is a profusion of Pyramidal Orchids which have a beautiful purple flower on them and it is amazing how they have spread rapidly where there is sufficient light through the canopy. Sadly, in the same plantation there is evidence of some of the ash trees beginning to die from ash dieback disease and these will have to be felled and removed. On my land down Carr Lane, haymaking was in full swing and with the current weather should result in excellent quality hay.



Pyramidal Orchid, photo by Stephen Prest

We have sown about 5 acres of land to a Wild Bird seed mix under a Countryside Stewardship Scheme, but with the current drought conditions it is not looking too good and may need re-sowing, especially if it doesn't rain soon. Another result of the drought is that one of my ponds has almost dried up and the second one's water level is getting quite low. A pair of Kestrels has nested again in one of my owl boxes and the young have just fledged which is very encouraging.

I do enjoy watching the swifts flying around in an evening, swooping and wheeling around at great speed. What amazing birds they are. A holiday maker has given me some money to spend on bird nest boxes, so I will buy a swift nest box and put it on our house. As houses get repaired and updated and old buildings get converted to houses many traditional nesting sites are being lost, so we need to give swifts and other similar birds extra help to find alternative nesting sites. If you would like to put a swift nest box on your home do get in touch and we will find some funding and get some nest boxes and put them up for you.

Stephen Prest

FOSS

Saturday the 16th July saw the long-awaited return of the Duck Race and family fun day, and what a fabulous day it was. This has always been a fun filled event but it also serves as our biggest fundraiser of the year, significantly enhancing the amount raised for the school.

The weather was spot on and it was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the barbecue, inflatables and stalls. We were so grateful to receive generous donations of prizes for the raffle which in itself raised £319. A huge thank you to all who donated prizes and baked goods for the cake stall, and to the Pern family and the Star at Harome for donating the barbecue food.

A total of 1109 ducks were sold and released onto the beck at 2pm amidst a crowd of cheerful onlookers along the bank. The winning duck crossed the finish line to earn a £50 prize for its lucky sponsor, the Saggars family. Thank you so much to all who helped make this such a wonderful event and for the support of the local community. See photos below.

Later in the year we will be holding a Christmas Fair in the village, on Saturday 26th November. If you or anyone you know would like to hold a stall as part of the event, please contact us by email at friendsofslingsbyschool@hotmail.co.uk by the 1st of September.

As we approach the end of the academic year, we wish all our school and wider community a wonderful summer and all the very best to the year 6 pupils leaving Slingsby school.

Helen Mackinder

