

NORTH RODE NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2022

After an atrocious February we hope to see more signs of spring soon! There is plenty to look forward to. Everyone will be made welcome at the Lent lunches and Mothering Sunday service, as well as other services. We are also looking forward to the Jubilee celebrations, and contributions are welcome at the meeting to be held on 9th March – see below. John Lea apologises for not contributing a wildlife article this month as his computer is being repaired, but, thanks to other contributions, we seem to have plenty of interest.

Sick List

We are delighted that Jerry Howarth is out of hospital and gathering strength. He would welcome visitors and phone calls.

Dorothy Cartlidge RIP



St Michael's saw the funeral service on 16th February of Dorothy Cartlidge, née Nadin, aged 100, prior to burial in her husband Bernard's grave at St John's, Buglawton. She had a lifelong attachment to North Rode, having been born at Colley Mill. Her parents then moved to Inglebrook, Station Road, where they ran the village shop/newsagents. Dorothy used to deliver newspapers on her bike, and the teachers at Daintry Hall School (who had a pet badger) kept dry clothes for her when needed! She loved children, and supported John and Elizabeth Brooks with theirs over the years, also with Nigel Ferranti's. She married Bernard at St Michael's in 1947, then lived in Congleton, with their adopted daughters Gail and Jane, to whom we send our condolences. She kept active and fit throughout her long life, helped by regular activities with her grandchildren. A friend to many and a lovely lady.

Lent Lunches

We are delighted to reinstate our traditional combined charity Lent lunches which will be held as follows, starting at 12.00:

Tuesday 8th March Gawsworth Parish room

Tuesday 15th March Gawsworth Parish room

Tuesday 22nd March Ridgeway, Station Road, CW12 2PD, kindly hosted by Jerry and Judy Howarth.

Jubilee Celebrations

Plans are underway for celebrations over the Jubilee weekend so please save some time in your diaries to meet with villagers Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th June 2022. More details of events and times will be available next month. If you would like to get involved with the organisation of the events then please join us at The Oaklands (Mark & Sue Bullock's) on 9th March at 7pm. 01260 223773 northrode@btinternet.com

Marton School News

Dear Friends

We are all ready for the half term break this week and looking forward to a good rest. Our children have worked so incredibly hard this term and Spring is always the busiest of times at school. It has been a pleasure to see spring flowers start to grow around our beautiful grounds.

Last week we supported children's Mental Health with beautiful ELSA activities delivered to support children. Well-being remains a priority at school and we want all our children to feel supported and ready to learn. We are so lucky that Mrs Woodmass is our well-being ambassador and value her support and help.

With Covid measures easing, we have started to introduce activities and events, our Year 4 children attended their residential to Robinwood and had a wonderful 3 days away from school. We all loved watching the video they had made during Celebration assembly last week. Sporting events have taken place and we all celebrated Chinese New Year with Chinese dancing and a very tasty special themed lunch!

Each class supported Safer Internet Day last week and children were taught about keeping safe online, age appropriateness and websites among other activities. We would urge you as families to continue to support your children and to keep them digitally safe. The NSPCC has really useful information for families and can easily be accessed but if you need further support, please contact us at school.

I had the pleasure of watching Year 3's Performance Poetry about The Iron Man recently and know how much they have enjoyed working with Miss Wright (our student) on this. As I was so impressed; they were all invited to have hot chocolate and snacks. I also invited the children who represented school in Church too.

It's safe to say Fridays are becoming my favourite day of the week!

Wishing you all a very happy, healthy half term

Your friend

Nevin Deakin

The Rector's Letter – March

One of the best and most thought-provoking storytellers I have ever met was the late Rabbi Lionel Blue and his “Parable of the Bridge Builder” is one of my favourite stories:

Once upon a time there were two brothers. Their father had a large farm and shortly before he died he called his two sons to him and said, “I will divide my farm and give each of you one half. I know that you will always work together and will be good friends.”

When the brothers first started farming on their adjoining farms, they were the best of friends and would share everything together. Then, one day, there was an argument between the brothers, and they stopped speaking to one another. For many years, not a word was spoken between them.

One day, one of the brothers was at his farmhouse when a travelling carpenter came to his door and said, “Do you have any work that I can do for you?” The brother thought for a moment and then replied, “I would like you to build a fence on my property. Build it down near the stream that separates my farm from my brother’s. I don’t want to see my brother anymore and I want you to build a high fence there please. I am going into town, I will return this evening and pay what I owe you.”

When he came back in the evening, he was shocked to see that the carpenter had not followed his instructions. Instead of building a high fence, he had built a bridge over the stream. The man walked down to take a close look at the bridge and as he did so, his brother walked towards him from the other side. His brother said, “After all the terrible things I’ve done to you over the years, I cannot believe that you would build a bridge and welcome me back!” And with tears in his eyes, he reached out to his brother and gave him a big hug. The man’s brother then walked back up to his farmhouse to talk to the carpenter. “Can you stay?” he asked. “I have more work for you to do.” The carpenter answered, “I’m sorry, but I can’t stay. I have to go, for I have many other bridges to build.”

If we are not careful, sometimes arguments and disagreements can get blown up out of all proportion, with the danger that we may end up building fences between ourselves and other people. We stop talking to them. We don’t want to see them. We don’t want to be around them. That is not what Jesus Christ wants us to do. Instead of fences, he expects us to build bridges.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 2nd March. For Christians, this is meant to be a period of serious personal reflection, a kind of M.O.T. on the health of our relationships with other people and with God, before the great celebration of Easter. As a parish priest who has conducted a great many funerals over the years, one of things I have quite often encountered is a deep sense of sadness and regret that a broken relationship was never mended. Lent is a good time to start building the bridges in our lives that need to be built. Yours ever, *Colin*

Rector

Revd. Colin Wilson

Warden

Mrs Marilyn Ainslie

Secretary

Mrs Diane Lowe

Treasurer

Mrs Lynn Petts

Newsletter Contacts

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Ms Kate Bean

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Mar 2nd Ash Wednesday	6.00 pm Gawsworth	Communion &	Ashes Imposition
Mar 6th Lent 1 No flowers during Lent	11.15 am Holy Communion (CW)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	Revd. Anne Freestone Lynn Petts Geoffrey Petts
Mar 13th Lent 2	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	The Rector Peter Brocklehurst Myrtle Bullock
Mar 20th Lent 3	11.15 am Matins	Led by: Sidesman: Readings:	Mr Keith Parrott Shirley Tudor-Evans Bernard Lever Mary Hobson
Mar 27th Mothering Sunday Posies: Sheila Kidd & Rose Brocklehurst	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	The Rector The Bullock Family
April 3rd Lent 5 Passiontide	11.15 am Holy Communion (CW)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	Revd. Bruce Lamb Louise Jackson Alastair Kennedy

Caught on Camera

We've had a report of a stranger looking round outside a house in the village for no apparent reason. Please make sure your property is as secure as possible.



North Rode WI Notes from Pam Robinson, Secretary

The February Meeting was opened by President Bronwen Bebington who welcomed Members and visitors. Several Apologies were given out. Thanks were given to Pauline Croft for the Table Flowers, Raffle Teas Gloria Cole and Sandie White, Cakes Pam Robinson and Margaret Aitchison. The Competition was for Homemade Gingerbread. Minutes of the last Meeting were approved and signed.

The Annual Council Meeting is on March 19th. The AGM is to be held in Liverpool on Saturday 11th June. Resolution Papers were given to Sandie White. The Coffee Morning is on Thursday May 12th at Gawsworth Methodist Church Hall. The Bulb Competition is on March 8th. Our next Meeting, Cloud Group Spring Meeting, is on Wednesday 4th May at NLChurch. A Coffee Morning is organised by the Cloud Group and will take place at NLChurch on Saturday 19th March, 10am onwards, to promote WI's in the area. The County Quiz has been cancelled by CFWI, and the Thornton Manor Event in September has been postponed by CFWI due to the Virus situation.

The Speaker for the afternoon Meeting was Mike Tingle and his talk was titled 'Congleton Curios'. Mike was a very interesting Speaker who was very keen on History not just here in Congleton. He showed plenty of slides of the town lots of which Members did not recognise. A lighthearted Picture Quiz took place but not many questions were answered by people. We must take more notice of things in our own town. Mike judged the Competition and Pam Robinson came 1st with Pauline Croft second. The raffle was won by Freda Butler. Pam Robinson gave the Vote of Thanks for a very interesting and informative talk.

Our next Meeting 2pm is on Tuesday 8th March when our Speaker will be Roger Devonside, A Wing Walker, who sounds very interesting. The Competition is for a Bowl of Mini Daffs. We hope to see Visitors from nearby WI's who have been invited.

All Visitors are welcome to come Afternoon Meetings at 2pm in the Winter Months and 7.30 pm in the Summer Months.

North Rode Parish Council News from Janet Hughes, Chair

The Parish Council met at 7.30pm on Thursday 17th February in St Michael's church. Thank you to the residents that came to the start of the meeting to share their views on possible activities to celebrate the Queen's record breaking reign of 70 years. We also received some email suggestions which were considered. Members of the Parish Council have volunteered to work with other groups who have events they would like to organise, to make this a very special weekend in June. I am sure you will be hearing about the events planned in the near future.

The Parish Council's business for this meeting included:

- Reviewing ongoing planning applications and enforcement issues.
- Highways problems. A detailed report of all our issues was submitted to Cheshire East Council in November. We are pursuing a response.
- Parish Council Finance.
- ICT costs and improvements to our website.
- The Community Governance Review. The outcome of the review into a possible merger with Eaton will be announced after the full Cheshire East Council meeting on 27th April 2022. We will inform residents as soon as we know anything.

The next meeting will be our AGM on 12th May at 7.30pm. All residents are warmly welcome to attend.

The Boomerang Island by Kate Bean



lovers of cinema will be amazed to know that the Award winning movie, 'Mama Mia' was shot on this island. You can still see the film in the open air cinema.

Skiathos makes up part of the island group referred to as Sporades. Sporades means 'the scattered ones' in reference to Aegean archipelago that was outside the Cyclades. The Sporades Islands are 24 in number, but only 4 of them including Skiathos have inhabitants on them. These islands are also referred to as Thessalian Sporades.

The name 'Skiathos' may not strike a chord, but



Greece's first flag was designed and hoisted in a popular monastery, the Evangelistria Monastery in Skiathos in the 19th century. In attendance were prominent Greeks and religious figures. Another interesting fact is that there are 158 verses in the Greek National Anthem!



Skiathos has a green landscape. The island is well known for its beaches, of which there are 60. They are filled with sands which stretch down to the horizon and blue waters which are perfect for watersports. Some of the popular beaches in Skiathos include Koukounaries beach, Lalaria, Banana beach, Xanemos, Megali Ammos, Achladies, Vromolimnos and Maratha. Koukounaries beach has been rated the 7th best beach on earth and the very best in all of Greece.



During the 1900s, the island became a flourishing centre for the construction of ships. The ships were built with wood from the pine forests which dominate the island. Even today, a tiny shipwright located at the northern part of the island's town still builds caiques, a traditional type of Greek boats.

Alexandros Papadiamenti, a famous Greek writer lived on the island. Both the airport and the main street in Skiathos town are named after him and there is a museum in the house where he lived.

There is much to explore on this small Greek island. It has one main road and buses and taxis are frequent so it is easy to get around. Bus stops are numbered so finding your way is simple. There are also walks and ruins to investigate. Not to mention the lovely, fresh and healthy Greek food such as Stiffado, Moussaka, Souvlaki and Greek salad topped with a piece of feta cheese.

This article has just touched the surface of Skiathos- as a traveller to Greece since 1971 it is the only island I have returned to many times- hence the name Boomerang Island. It is the same for many who visit it, they return time and time again for the Greek friendship and generous hospitality.

Quiz - Actors

1. Sidney Poitier died in January. He became the first black winner of the Best Actor Oscar, for his part in which 1963 film?
2. Which actor's first major film role was as Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead in the 1964 classic, Zulu?
3. In the epic Spaghetti Western, Clint Eastwood played the Good and Eli Wallach played the Ugly. Who played the Bad?
4. Which actor played all nine members of the D'Ascoyne family in the 1949 film *Kind Hearts and Coronets*?
5. Which actress portrayed Cleopatra in the 1963 film directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz?
6. In 1973, who became the youngest winner of the Best Supporting Actress Oscar, for her role in *Paper Moon*, at only 10 years old?
7. As well as being the daughter of a famous Hollywood actor, which actress has also been married to three different actors – Johnny Lee Miller, Billy Bob Thornton and more recently Brad Pitt?
8. Who starred as Ann Darrow in the original 1933 version of *King Kong*?
9. Which actor, a star of *From Here to Eternity* and *The Birdman of Alcatraz* among many others, started his entertainment career as a circus acrobat?
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Answers from last month

1. Blind Date
2. Jasper Carrot
3. Cubby Broccoli
4. Pear's Soap
5. They are all Swedes
6. Bananaman
7. Leek
8. The mashed potato
9. Green Onions
10. Fried Green Tomatoes

And Finally

Q: At what time of day was Adam created?

A: A little before Eve.

Q. Did Eve ever have a date with Adam?

A. No, just an apple.

Q. Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?

A. Because he knew there was something fishy about it.

Q: What do you get if you cross a Jehovah's Witness and a Unitarian?

A: Someone who goes around knocking on doors for no apparent reason

Q: Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A: Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once

Q: Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?

A: The area around Jordan, because the banks were always overflowing