## OLLESTONIA WINTER 2018

EDITED AND PRODUCED FOR ROLLESTON CIVIC TRUST

Secretary: Anne Overton, Newent, Fiddlers Lane



### **CHAPTER & VERSE**

Our summer read, 'Station Eleven' by Emily St. John Mandel has been described as science fiction, but that gives a misleading impression: actually it's a haunting and slightly disturbing account of a future where civilisation has collapsed following the death of almost all the human race from a deadly flu virus. Nearly everything has been lost; and yet the story follows Kirsten, an actress in the Travelling Symphony which performs Shakespeare in the settlements that have grown up since the collapse. A cast of diverse characters who are connected in ways which don't become clear until the end, and a narrative which jumps from past to present repeatedly, make this a read you have to concentrate on, and although one or two didn't enjoy it, most of us found it intriguing and extremely thoughtprovoking. What would you want to preserve? Is it true that survival is sufficient? Would civilisation be able to reboot itself, and how long would it take? The book provoked an excellent discussion, and most of us would recommend it highly.

In September, Chapter and Verse met to discuss 'Memoirs of a Geisha' by Arthur Golden. It had proved to be a long read at 428 pages of extremely small print, but everyone felt it was well worth the effort.

Taking us inside the closed world of the Geisha in Kyoto's Gion pleasure district during the 1930's and 40's, it is told through the eyes of Chiyo, who, after being sold into slavery by her poor fisherman father at the age of 9, ultimately becomes Sayuri, a beautiful Geisha accomplished in the art of entertaining men. It was agreed that the draw of the novel is the fact that we, the reader, are taken on a journey with Chiyo, feeling her despair and hope and admiring her courage and daring whilst being carried along and into a world of intrigue and romance peopled by a fascinating array of characters ranging from harsh, greedy and sadistically cruel to the movingly kind and empathetic. Definitely worth a read if you haven't already come across it.

Our future books are;-

Monday 22 October 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison

Monday 3 December 'The Wide Sargasso Sea' by Jean Rhys

Thank you for donations of books for our stall at the Village Gala, with the help of both book clubs we made £100 to support the chosen charities.

For further information contact Maggie Gawthorpe 812621



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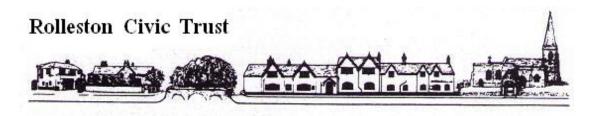
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## Promoting Pride in our Village

The Parish Council has a mission;" to promote pride in the local environment and enhance the quality of life for those living and working in our village ". Lofty aims you may think, but the PC is serious about its commitment to the success of this mission and has backed its determination with a £10,000 reserve in its budget to fund improvements and initiatives in the village. Further, in order to measure the success of the initiative, it has been decided to enter Staffordshire's Best Kept Village Competition.

It is some twenty years since Rolleston last entered the battle of the villages, and we have yet to win. We have been third four times, and second twice. Now must be the time and 2019 is the year. Rolleston has always been a special place, a classic English village with a stream running through, a Norman Church, an olde worlde pub or two and lots of village organisations holding Fayres, carnivals and numerous events throughout the year, but this alone is not enough to win the Best Kept Village.

To win everyone in the village must show they care for their own and community environments. They must show pride in their village and be seen to actively keep the village in good shape both physically and communally. We must all stand up and be counted if we are to win Points will be awarded for the overall condition and cleanliness of our buildings, bus shelters, village signs and street furniture, public and private open spaces and play areas, but also for public awareness of the competition and community effort in making our village the best.

The Parish Council needs commitment from everyone in the village, The Civic Trust has given that commitment, it is hoped others will do the same.

The PC will advise on what action is needed from each and every villager and from our many village organisations, and will co-ordinate all our efforts, but everyone needs to be proactive and ask "what can we do". Please don't sit on your hands and wait to be told, but get in there. Pick up litter, make sure you pick up after your dog, weed and mow your own gardens and sweep your pavements, flowers in tubs and hanging baskets help to create a special environment. Be part of caring for our environment and make your ideas and presence known. Be part of your village.

#### Finally an update on Brook Hollows

Transforming The Trent Valley Landscape Partnership submitted the application for lottery funding in August and the work required in Brook Hollows features in that application. Unfortunately the date for a decision on the award has moved from September to December so we will have to wait a little while longer to know if we are successful. Watch this space.

#### Peter Barnett

#### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

In September Steve Bull gave an interesting talk about the Burton and Ashby tramways, then in October we had John Redfern, standing in for Graham Nutt, telling us about the Magic Attic. Our final speaker for the year, on Wednesday 21st November is Malcolm Goode, whose subject is 'Burton at War in 1918'.

We have started to book our speakers for 2019. First of all we are looking forward to welcoming back Richard Stone who, on January 16<sup>th</sup>, will be telling us about the Story of Mapmaking.

Our monthly meetings are held at Rolleston Cricket Club, 7.30pm for an 8pm start, and all are welcome.

Sue Fraser

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

#### LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

"In all the changing scenes of life, in sorrow and in joy..."

No end of hymns reflect the fact that **changes** are all about us and this is no less seen in the Autumn that is here and Winter is not far away.

On the 1st October another **change** came legally into reality. Our three churches of Anslow, Rolleston & Tutbury have been working together informally for nearly 5 years now but now we are legally united into what is called a 'Benefice' which means that there will be one Clergy appointment to the three churches in the future.

**Change** is never far away but we hold to what is dear, that seasons come around and each is celebrated in the community, together.

What encourages me is, once more, found in another hymn...

'O Thou who changest not, abide with me!'

May we find, during times of **change**, there remains Jesus who indeed promises to always abide with us. So, do not fear the **changes** that happen but see the one who is there with us in them. Our friend and saviour, Jesus.

With sustaining love, lan Whitehead

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#### ST MARY'S EVENTS

#### Harvest

Sunday 30th September saw the church windows, font and altar beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables for the Harvest services. Added to these were the gifts displayed on tables either side of the nave which were groaning with fresh produce from gardens (and Sainsbury's!) and dried goods and tins destined for the YMCA Food Bank. At the end of the evening willing helpers collected the food bank gifts into 16 large bags to be delivered later in the week. The fresh produce and flowers were transported to the pop-up stall outside the Club on Tuesday morning which raised £120 for the work of the local Salvation Army. Later in the week the excellent harvest supper and quiz proved a fitting end to this year's celebration.

#### **Armistice Anniversary**

In October St Mary's is marking the anniversary of the 1914 Armistice signing by hosting an evening of "Rolleston Remembers 1918". Later, in November, the church will be decorated with poppies, both inside and out and Remembrance services will take place on **November 11**<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Advent Festival**

"Now the War is Over" is our theme and once again the church will be decorated by local organisations showing their ingenuity in interpreting this. The Festival will run from **Friday November 30**<sup>th</sup> **to Monday December 3**<sup>rd</sup> daily between 1&6pm, except on the Friday when it will close at **5pm** to allow the Mellstock Band to rehearse for their evening concert. Tickets (£7.50) for this are now available from St Mary's, Tom & Sylvia Martin (813320) or Arnold Burston (813457).

## St Mary's Services

#### REGULAR SERVICES

1st Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer

#### **Every Sunday**

9.30am Morning Worship from the Modern Prayer book. Either Communion or Morning Prayers. With a small creche area

6.30pm Evening Worship from the Book of Common Prayer – either Communion or Evensong

#### **Every Thursday**

9.30am Informal Communion followed by,

10.00am Coffee Morning in the Old Grammar School Room in the Churchyard

**1st Monday** 6.30pm Once a month there is silence and mediation in church for those who like it silent

Thursday 7.30pm Bellringing Practice

**Sunday** 7.30pm Choir Rehearsal

**Baptisms** by arrangement: contact stmarys.rolleston@yahoo.co.uk

Wedding bookings being taken for 2019/20/21 contact: revirwhite@aol.com

#### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

#### ADVENT SUNDAY 2nd December 6.30pm

An Advent Carol Service that invites us to await Christmas with eager anticipation.

#### CHRISTINGLE SUNDAY 16th December 9.30pm

The service with the Oranges & Candles that invites us, with our children, to consider the Light that is in the World to all God's children.

#### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT 23rd Dec 6.30pm

Bring your light, bring your voices and let us together welcome the Reason for the Season, Jesus.

#### CHRISTMAS EVE 24<sup>TH</sup> December 3.00pm

THE Nativity Event of the year! Back to tradition this year with us dressed as Shepherds, Kings, Sheep, Donkey's, Mary & Joseph, let's go for the biggest nativity scene ever!

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE EVENING 11.30am**

The Midnight Communion heralding the arrival of Christmas Day and the birth of the rescuer of the world

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

8.00am Early Holy Communion followed by the 10.00am Family Communion.

Let us as a village, community and family celebrate together!

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## FORTHCOMING ENTERTAINMENT ROLLESTON CLUB

#### 10th Nov SPOOKY FISH

4-piece band playing funky/pop/rock/dance classics

#### 17th Nov NORTHERN SOUL/MOTOWN

£5 pay at door.

#### 1st Dec SIGNED SEALED & DELIVERED

Motown tribute band playing party classis. Outstanding musicians and a female lead singer.

#### 15th Dec UNFORGIVEN

4 piece band playing rock, pop, blues & funk covers.

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec CHRISTMAS MOTOWN

Evening for Northern Soul music lovers.

#### 29th Dec DARK HORSES

5-piece band playing Stones, Jimi Hendrix, Bowie, Queen, Led Zepplin and many more.

#### 31st Dec (New Years Eve) THE DETROITS

6-piece Motown & Soul Band. Ticketed event only (£7.50 members & £12.00 guests)

Doors open for entertainment at 7.30pm with groups scheduled to be on stage at 9.00pm. A small charge is made for members and their guests for non-ticketed events

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## Rolleston Club At the Heart of the Village

We have had a very busy period during the past three months with the excellent weather and many attractions held in the Club for our members.

The Entertainment Programme on a Saturday
Evening has proved popular with two tribute acts
attracting full houses. 'Born Again Beatles' and 'Lee
Brady' performing a tribute to Frankie Valli and
Gary Barlow were both well received. We also had
some very good groups and not forgetting the
Northern Soul/Motown nights which again attracted
many followers. Keith Norris is responsible for
booking the acts which is a difficult job bearing in
mind he endeavours to please a variety of music
tastes amongst our members.

The Bowls Season has now finished and congratulations go the Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> Team who became 'Champions' of the First Division. A fine achievement by Carol Hyde and her colleagues. In addition the 2<sup>nd</sup> Team retained their status in the same division.

The Men's Saturday sides were both challenging for promotion up to the final game. The 1<sup>st</sup> Team finished a very close third and just missed out on promotion with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Team going one better gaining second place with promotion to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. Our other teams competed strongly on many other fronts and thanks to everyone who represented Rolleston Club.

Another important event in August was Gala Day on Bank Holiday Monday. The Gala Day Committee have been planning the event since February and it all came together on the day. We would like to thank Phillip White, Staffordshire County Councillor, for the grant and all our sponsors, companies who gave raffle prizes and volunteers who made it all possible. The surplus from the day has enabled a cheque to be presented to the Almshouses Charity for £650.

The Club has been re-wired and new floodlights for the bowling green are likely to be installed in October. These two projects have been approved by the Committee to enhance the infrastructure of the Club and hopefully ensure its long term future for our members. The cost of the work carried out by Parkers of Burton has been raised by careful budgeting of our accounts over the past two years.

We hope members will continue to support the Committee's efforts to invest any surplus's made by the Bar, Café and other activities back into improving our Club.

Christmas is on the horizon and the Café has already taken bookings for the Festive period. If you are planning a function in November, December or January for a small party get in early to avoid disappointment. The Main Hall is fully booked on a Saturday evening until June of next year but there are a number of vacancies for a Sunday event if that is of any interest.

On a recent inspection by the Cask Marque Assessor we have again received a maximum score. All our cask beers have achieved the necessary standard for aroma, taste, clarity and temperature and great credit must go to staff members Fran Dawes and Steve Moran for their contributions. We have a variety of cask beers including Abbot Ale, Speckled Hen, Rev James and Spitfire. Why not give them a try?

We should also like to thank the Villagers for their support of the Macmillan Coffee Morning on 28<sup>th</sup> September. A total of £1633.18 was raised (included in this total was £270 from the sale of books in the Lounge and a £50 donation from the Bingo players who carry out a similar exercise. A debt of gratitude must go to all the helpers who gave up their time on the day to assist with the fundraising for such an important cause.

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#### DOING THEIR BIT IN BURTON

#### Women at Work in World War One

In the Local History Section at Burton Library we are working on a project to research the work women did in Burton during the First World War. As more and more men went to war, women had to take over the jobs they left behind. These included agriculture, brewing, transport, munitions and many others. We are very keen to hear from anyone who has any information about female relatives working in Burton or the surrounding villages during this period (1914 - 1919). If you have any documents or photos at all, we would be delighted to see them.

Please contact Malcolm Goode:

malcolm.goode@btopenworld.com or Jane Reeves: jane.reeves79@yahoo.co.uk

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### **RoDSEC Events 2018 ~ 2019**

## Carols Around the Christmas Tree: 6.30pm ~ 7.30pm Friday 7th December

Come and join this community event with the Burton Salvation Army Band playing on the lawn of the Almshouses and sing Christmas carols around the huge tree. The lights will be switched on by Rollestonian of the year Richard Bush. Ian the Rector will act as compere. It's a family occasion with a great atmosphere. Don't miss it!

## A Concert with 'Fusion' Sunday 27th January 7.30pm Rolleston Club tickets £7.50 (includes light refreshments)

This local group, members of Burton Musical Theatre Company, will be entertaining us with their singing. Their repertoire includes songs from musical theatre, classic pop and film. Enjoy a relaxed evening with music you love and some delicious refreshments. Tickets will be available in January.

'It is Now' presented by Anonymous is a Woman Theatre Company (Live & Local event) Sunday 31st March 2019 7.30pm Rolleston Club Tickets £10

The setting is a wedding in the swinging 60's ~coinciding with the final of the World Cup. We will all be at the wedding so come and join in and have fun

## PEACE FESTIVAL 29th ~30th June 2019

In November 2018 the village remembered, with poppies, the sacrifice of those who died one hundred years ago in the Great War.

In June 2019 we are holding a Festival of Peace. This will be a true celebration and a chance to have fun The Burton Big Band will be playing on the Croft

There will be a photographic exhibition and an exhibition of paintings by local photographers and artists. Of course cream teas will be available after you have had a go at the skittles!

#### Your Village Needs Your Help!?

#### Well Dressing by the Almshouse Pump

Would anyone be prepared to organise the well dressing. There are still many who were involved previously in 'petalling' but we have no one to lead the team. Could you step up and help?

Please John on 01283 813833.

#### Mummers

This group needs new members if they are able to once again perform this very old play on the Croft, which would have been well known in Rolleston 100 years ago. The script is not difficult or long so it would be easy to learn.

Please **Tohn on 01283 813833** 

#### **Involving the Children**

**Peace** ~ we strive for this around the world and at home in our everyday lives. This is a chance for the young ones to think about the true meaning of peace and express their own views. Peace poles will be displayed with children's messages, which will be well worth reading.

Let's try and make this weekend one of:

#### 'Enjoyment and Reflection'.

The RoDSEC team led by their very enthusiastic Chairman, John Phillips would like everyone to come along and join in the activities but most of all the team, who are bubbling with ideas, need your support to get Well Dressing and the Mummers play up and running

### PLEASE HELP IF YOU ARE ABLE Your Village Needs You



## **Tutbury Flower Club**

I would like to thank everyone who took part in our SOS Fashion charity event in aid of St. Giles Hospice. The well attended event raised just under £800, our thanks to the models who did a wonderful job and the ladies for the home made cakes. A big big thank you to Janet Stone for the flower arrangements which were absolutely gorgeous. Also in September we held a workshop where we made and designed "Flowered Pumpkins", thank you Elaine for your organising this event.

A thank you to Rolleston Allotments for allowing us to be included in their trip to Malvern Show on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. It was a truly beautiful day, sunshine and warm all day long. Hopefully not the end of this lovely weather.



Lynne Sharp was our demonstrator in October with her presentation of "Floral Gems". **14**<sup>th</sup> **November** will be a workshop at Tutbury Club, commencing 7.30 p.m. All visitors and guests are welcome. If anyone would like to take part just give me a ring on 01283 815082. You are also welcome to just come and watch, cakes and beverages on sale, leave a little room after tea!

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November our annual open extravaganza event takes place at Tutbury Village Hall. With tickets on sale now, Ian Buxton will present his interpretation of "The Atmosphere of Christmas". As always wine and mince pie included, the raffle will be for the wonderful designs which Ian will put together. The last time Ian visited us in addition to his national skills as a flower demonstrator he is a great entertainer guaranteeing a laugh. There will be a sales table and tombola. Tickets available from committee members or by telephone as above.



**12**<sup>th</sup> **December** will be the clubs Christmas Party, for tickets please telephone, again as above. Our AGM will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 after which we shall announce our programme for the forthcoming year.

May we wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year

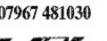
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## The Royal British Legion

Rolleston on Dove Branch with Hatton, Stretton and Tutbury

We are approaching the culmination of the village's preparations for celebrating the end of the fighting on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918. Within the village we have seen many demonstrations of support for the projects promoted by RODSEC and other organisations remembering the sacrifice made by the men of Rolleston:

- The village turned red with a range of different flowers in gardens and in the planters on Burnside.
- The Scout group decorating pebbles placed in Lych Gate
- The Wednesday Scouts continuing to mark the anniversary of the death of those identified in the Lych Gate by placing a poppy against their name.
- Visits by villagers to France to place a "Rolleston Remembers" cross on the graves or memorials of the men who didn't return.
- Children colouring poppies in large *Thank You* poppy posters
- Villagers spending time making poppies from paper plates for the display down the church tower
- School children forming a huge poppy and photographed from above by a drone.
- Knitted poppies produced for decorating trees around the Croft
- Two Silent Soldiers one outside the Church from a private donor and one by the bus stop provided by the Parish Council.
- An evening of reminiscence by the "History Boys" remembering the casualties, the impact on the village and the survivors.
- Our Silver Sax Concert in the Rolleston Club
- The Choral Society concert in St Mary's on the eve of Remembrance Day.

Thank you for the support you have given to the branch through the year and hopefully in the next issue we will be able to report on this year's poppy collection.

**Bryan Pickering** 

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter

In 'A Man called Ove' by Fredrik Backman we read of a grumpy yet loveable man who finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. He's a curmudgeon, the kind of man who will stand and point at people he dislikes. He has staunch principles, strict routines and a short fuse. People call him the bitter neighbour from hell, but must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time? Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heart-warming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations. There are times throughout the book where we laughed out loud, especially at Ove's conviction of how things should be and his tetchiness with those who don't see things his way yet there is sadness as Ove deals with the loss of his wife and his loneliness. The novel shows just how communities can be socially uplifting and rewarding.

In complete contrast our next read was 'Apple Tree Yard' by Louise Doughty. Several of us had seen the adaptation serialised on television so were prepared for scenes of a sexual nature but reading of violence in print was not to everyone's taste. The first person narration of the character Yvonne seemed to shift through various genres: adulterous romance, spy thriller, gothic horror, revenge tragedy, courtroom drama, but at its heart it was something simpler: a lascivious morality tale. First it savours the sin of adultery, then it punishes the sinner excessively. Weighed down by the reality of a dreary marriage and children who are no longer at home, Yvonne's affair is a kind of waking fantasy, less compromising than the web of lies she spins to maintain it. The lies land her in the dock at the Old Bailey and the narrative is fed to the reader in fragments of testimony and back story. The novel is chilling as it exposes Yvonne's ability to deceive herself. It wasn't a comfortable read but was entirely compelling.

If you would like to know more about this Book Club contact: Margaret Clarke on 01283 813709

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## **Rolleston on Dove Special Events Committee**

Proudly presents



We are pleased to welcome this very popular local ensemble, composed of leading members from the Burton Musical Theatre Company. Fusion', a local close harmony group, have been performing together for a number of years now, entertaining their audiences with songs ranging from musical theatre to swing, classic pop and film. Members of the group are Andy Hambleton, Lee Smith, Jonny Salt, Oly Wright, Sam Walker, Angela Wynne, Karen Hambleton, Laura Smith and Jo Creswell. Accompanist for the evening is Ed Moore who we are delighted to have with us. Please join us for a relaxed, friendly evening in good company.

## SUNDAY 27th January 2019 7:30pm ROLLESTON CLUB Tickets £7.50( includes light refreshments)

Tickets available from Rolleston Newsagent (813112) & RoDSEC members, including John Phillips 813833, Verity Conner, Sue Irwin, Tom & Sylvia Martin, Sue Fraser, Trevor Foster, Simon Richardson, Roy Martin, Cathy Warren and Steve & Ellen McManus

**RoDSEC** 

### **Doveside WI**

We have had a summer that could easily compete with climates in countries nearer the equator. Apart from the odd dip in the River Dove, or the paddling pool, (and I am speaking purely for myself here), the heat didn't stop us meeting up and enjoying plenty of outings and times together.

Our speaker in July was a volunteer for the 'Blood Bike' service. It is humbling to know, that the bikers don't just transport life-saving organs all around the UK, but also blood products, breast milk, and other vital items and equipment.

August is our one month in the year when we don't have a speaker, but we entertain ourselves with bingo and lots of fun games, as well as enjoy a bit more time just to chat.

Our games and craft afternoons saw us making decorated garden lanterns and Christmas decorations, tutored by some of our own, very capable ladies. We also had an external crafter instructing us in scrapbooking and making handbag items out of felt. The games predominately played are Scrabble and Rummikub. We always welcome new players, new games, or spectators who want to join us for a cup of coffee.

Like every summer, we supported the two big 'money spinning' events in the village; the Transport Festival and the Summer Gala, as well as the Open Gardens organised by the church.

Our outings included a visit to the Community Orchard at Paget High School for a picnic and fruit picking, a walk and treasure hunt in Rolleston followed by Prosecco and Strawberries, and a lovely lunch at the Secret Diner at Sudbury Prison.

We meet once a month, on the third Friday at Rolleston Club form 9.45 until 12pm. Our social afternoons with games and crafts take place on the second Thursday of each month between 1.30 and 4 pm.

You can contact me for more information on **07375474523**, or e-mail me at **imnn.waller@sky.com**.

We have a lot of exciting things to look forward in the pre-Christmas season; why don't you come and see for yourself what a group of lovely ladies we are.

> Michaela Waller Vice President



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## John of Rolleston Primary School







As I write this the darker nights are just starting to draw in but at school our thoughts are already turning to Christmas, although still two months away. In the next month we are also going to have some activities which will help our children understand the significance of the WW1 centenary.

#### **Christmas**

It is with great pleasure that we are once again able to participate in the Christmas celebrations at St Mary's Church. Delivering our decorated trees to share with the village is always the start of our build up to Christmas in school.

Once again we have arranged a visit to the pantomime in Derby to see Jack and the Beanstalk. Children gain so much from live theatre and we would once again like to thank FOJORPS for helping out with the costs of the transport.

Our Annual Christmas Market is scheduled for Friday 30th November at 4pm. We would like to invite anyone from the village or beyond to join us for some early festive fun. There will be stalls to enjoy as well as Christmas gifts to buy and refreshments on sale. The children enjoy the Christmas market which once again this year will be held on the Alderbrook site on Chapel Lane. Come and join us- put the date in your diary!

#### **Local Governing Board (LGB)**

At our October meeting we had a change of Chair. Mr Russell Copley was appointed as our new Chair of Governors. Mr Copley has now been a Governor at school for a number of years and is involved in many aspects of the LGB's work. We are very pleased that Mr Andrew Bailey, our previous Chair, has agreed to work with Mr Copley, as Vice Chair, in a hand over period until Christmas. All at school look forward to working with Russell.

#### **Early Retirement**

At the end of this term (December) I will be taking early retirement from my post as Headteacher of John of Rolleston Primary School. I have been privileged to have been Headteacher for just over 13 years and I will leave with many fond memories of my time here.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at John of Rolleston Primary School and especially seeing new and exciting initiatives in school in recent years. It has been immensely rewarding, with the support of a happy, committed and highly professional staff and an outstanding leadership team. I will miss everything about the school – your wonderful children who engage me every day with their amazing contributions, good humour and achievements; you, the parents, who have been so supportive of our developments; the local community groups and of course my outstanding staff and governing body. A special mention must go to those parents who have worked tirelessly on behalf of FOJORPS over the years supporting the school in many different ways.

The Governors and the Central Co-operative Learning Trust have recently carried out very rigorous interviews and have appointed Mr Richard Simcox as the new Headteacher at John of Rolleston. Mr Simcox is an experienced Headteacher and is very excited about getting to know the school and the community better.

I am confident that the school will continue to go from strength to strength.

On behalf of the children, staff and governors of John of Rolleston Primary School we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr Ian Bateman and all at John of Rolleston Primary School

#### ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

Last issue's comments about it being a good year for squashes and sweet corn were partially true, as demonstrated by the entries to the Village Gala. The dry weather and summer heat wave tended to ripen such crops before they reached the usual maturity date. Sweet corn was over-mature and there were none of the usual heavy-weight pumpkins from open plots. If you visited the Malvern Autumn Show, hosting the national monster vegetable competition this year, you would have seen a different story. Dedicated competitors, using the sun (and hose pipes) produced pumpkins and marrows which would have required heavy duty fork-lifts to arrive in the marquee.

Not many will be aware that the gladiolus is a national flower in Russia which also has a national gladiolus day. We know it now! Some of us enjoyed watching clips of Graham Anderson being interviewed by Russian TV in front of his prize-winning blooms in Dundee

Our friendly late-summer competition won praise from our judges for maintaining a productive site in spite of the season's vicissitudes. We also found newcomers challenging established winners

#### Full plot

1 st = Ellen & Steve McManus

1 st = Norah & Chris Wilton

3rd Barry Greenhalgh

**Half Plot** 

1 st Alan Milward

 $2^{nd}$ Marje & Mick Robson

3rd **Dennis Perry** 

From combined competition scores "Gardeners of the Year" were -

Full Plot – Ellen & Steve McManus

Half Plot – Alan Milward

Best Crop not on a winning plot – Alison Page for sweet corn.

Best Flowers – Graham Anderson for gladioli and chrysanthemums.

By the time that this article appears we hope to have enjoyed our Annual Social and Prize Giving Evening in Rolleston Club. We don't do much but we get good support from old and new members for a few reflections on the year.

Tom Martin



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### Jubilee Orchard

Jubilee Orchard was created in 2012 and is at the junction of Knowles Hill and Beacon Road. The land is owned by our PC and was formerly a village bottle dump.

During 2018 our Orchard has continued to mature and develop.

Some apples won 1<sup>st</sup> prize at the Village Gala and some Pears won a 2<sup>nd</sup> prize.

Many cherries were enjoyed by the Beavers Scouts (who continue to visit regularly) before they were all eaten by the birds.

The plums this year were very poor, with only a few trees fruiting and the crop being very small.

It is good to see members of the village, including De Ferrers students on their way home, enjoying the products of our Orchard.

In our family, a raspberry and apple pie, with fruit fresh from the Orchard, was a big success with the grandchildren. The rhubarb gin also goes down well in the evening!

The land between the trees is steadily being developed in to plots for other plants. Our policy is to grow edible plants such as herbs and fruit bushes or indigenous flowers that will attract bees and other pollinators.

This year we have had available at various times and in variable amounts-

Braeburn apples, Cox Orange Pippin apples, Bramley apples, Conference pears, Sunburst cherries, Victoria plums, Pershore plums.

Gooseberry, Raspberry, Blackberry, Jostaberry, Red currant, Black currant, Rhubarb.

Mint, Rosemary, Lavender, Sage, Thyme, Marjoram, Chives, Parsley, Fennel, Feverfew, Angelica, Oregano, Sorrell, Garlic.

Thanks to a donation of left over plants from Garden Sunday, we also had a good crop of tomatoes

When visiting the Orchard please take a sensible amount for your own personal needs and if a plant is looking heavily cropped or in poor / immature condition then please leave it alone.

The PC village website has quizzes, maps and other resources about the Orchard, as well as fact sheets about the plants. They can be freely downloaded and used.

If you have a good recipe for fresh fruit, or the use of fresh herbs, then please share it.

https://rollestonondovepc.co.uk/our-village/the-jubilee-orchard

A big thank you to Nathan Barnett of Barnett Tree services for the donation of the two logs, carved in two seats, which are now regularly used in the Orchard.

#### www.barnetttreeservices.co.uk/

Thank you also to Catherine Birch for the donation of the Bench on Knowles Hill, just by the gate to the Jubilee Orchard

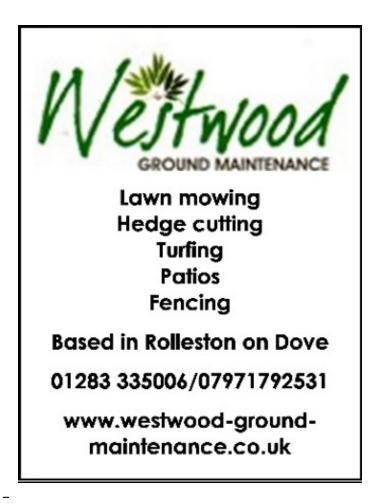
Any support you can give next year will be much appreciated.

Any plants or cuttings can be donated.

We also need to replace some of the bird boxes.

Please contact Mike Robson (01283 480599) or any other member of the Parish Council.

mikerobsonmobile@yahoo.co.uk 01283 480599 45, The Lawns





Animal lovers of Rolleston, come and gear up for the festive season with the Blue Cross team! We are hosting a Christmas market, on **Saturday 1**<sup>st</sup> **December** from **11am-3pm**.

We'll have a variety of stalls stocking hot food, cups of hot cocoa, and wonderful goods created by locals. Did we mention animals? There will be horses to meet too, so if you have been thinking about taking on a horse, or it's at the top of someone's list to Santa, it might be the perfect opportunity. Our team will be there to talk about the horses needing new homes, and for general advice on horse care.

There will also be a mince pie and best-dressed gingerbread competition, live music with Christmas carols, and even a special visit from Santa. So bring the whole family, there's plenty to keep you busy!

Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for any updates on the event.

Visit <u>www.bluecross.org.uk</u> to find out more about the charity's work, and while you're at it, why not follow us on Twitter or like us on Facebook for all the latest news and wonderful stories about the amazing pets we help.

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## The Rolleston Engineering and Transport Society TREATS Railway Station Heritage Group



Following a very dry season when all things growing from the ground suffered, visitors to the station heritage site will have noticed how the area of the wildflower meadow that received new sowing last autumn has responded magnificently to an Indian summer. Recently, with funds kindly donated by the "Friends of Rolleston-on-Dove

Station", group members have been able to re-sow another section of the wildflower meadow. Having extensively hand-weeded this area, but retaining all non-intrusive varieties, it is hoped that a similar impressive show will materialise next summer.

The woodland area has also been carefully hand-weeded to enable bluebells, planted in the spring, to bloom and expand during the next season. Further along the line it is hoped to develop the plot in front of the carriage/cattle dock and in particular maintain the original facing wall to the cattle dock that is suffering from attack by tree roots. Extra signage is also being prepared to enhance this feature.

There are always some tasks to be carried-out; further weeding and replenishing of the bark-chipping paths are just two jobs for the small, but dedicated team who enjoy a morning session, usually on the first Saturday of each month, helping to maintain this village feature in good order. New members are always welcome.

As the station project is linked by the Jinny Nature Trail to a similar scheme at what was the neighbouring station at Stretton, it is good when a group member is invited to make a presentation to pupils at William Shrewsbury Primary School to explain the railway heritage of the Dove Valley. This is becoming an annual event and it is hoped that Year 5, who, following that presentation, will shortly be visiting the Rolleston site, and benefit from the experience.

In an effort to retain the profile of our station project, a number of illustrated talks and visits to the site, some local and one from further afield, are planned for next year. The working model and display have been recently demonstrated at various venues –

Ludlow, Manchester and Claymills Victorian Pumping Station to be followed by Railex at the National Brewing Centre planned for 4<sup>th</sup> November.

During this year, the effects of the changing seasons to the site, have been photographically recorded and it is hoped that a video can be assembled suitable for viewing on social media. Details about the railway in this area can be researched on the website: <a href="https://www.rolleston-on-dove-station.co.uk">www.rolleston-on-dove-station.co.uk</a> and daily developments can be followed on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/Rolleston-on-Dove-Railway-Station/393619157480649

#### Talks at TREATS monthly gatherings

In August we had a very interesting trip to National Trust Quarry bank Mill at Styal, They have been carrying out a lot of work at the mill, including installing a lift so that all floors are accessible for people with walking difficulties. The work should have been completed before we went on 20th but there were some delays and they informed us that it mill would not be open to the public until the 25th. and hence the lift would not be operating and neither would the machinery. When this was relayed to the members quite a lot decided not to go. However for the 21 who braved the trip it turned out to be a real treat because the NT carried out a training day and used our group to test the guides and the machine operators and hence we saw everything working. We were also entertained by the guide who showed us round the apprentice house. A very good trip and worth a visit, even if you have been before.

We are struggling a bit to find people who will talk to the group with engineering or transport related subjects. We are easy to talk to so we welcome anybody who can speak to use. Please contact medetails below.

For more details and to join please contact Phil Irwin, susanirwin@btinternet.com or membership secretary Vanessa Winstone, vanessawinstone@hotmail.co.uk

## Rolleston Kindergarten



Established in 1994
Email
info@rollestonkindergarten.co.uk
Tel: 01283 813299

We are an independent pre-school situated at: 4 The Lawns, Rolleston on Dove, DE13 9BZ overlooking Brook Hollows

We are pleased to welcome the returning children back after the summer break and also the new children who have started with us: Freddie, Adriana, Gracie, Kai, William, Maisie, Zain, Emmett and Ben.

Since starting back in September we have explored a range of activities involving colours and shapes: we have looked at different foods and the environment, both indoors and outdoors; experimented with paints and construction materials and investigated and discussed the ongoing changes of the seasons. We will be celebrating Bonfire night, making displays and pictures exploding with colours, shapes and lots of glitter (which we always enjoy).

Our theme for the ½ term up to Christmas is Winter Weather.

We will be participating in St Mary's Church Christmas Tree Festival at the end of November, we always love visiting and seeing the variety of beautifully decorated trees in the church.

There are still places available for children aged 2-5 years.

We are open school term time. Monday to Friday 9am – 4pm

We take the Nursery Education Grant, available for eligible 2 year olds, and all 3 and 4 year olds. This enables children to access up to 15 hours per week free of charge.

We are also accepting the Extended Childcare Entitlement of up to 30 hours for eligible 3 and 4 year olds.

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## **Rolleston Choral Society**

We really enjoyed taking part in the "Last Night of the Proms" at the Scout HQ in September. The weather did not bode well to start with, but in the end the rain held off, there were plenty you there, and our "Rule Britannia" would have raised the roof - if there had been one!

We will be staging our annual Christmas Concert at **St Mary's Church** on **Wednesday 19th December at 7.30 pm.** 

Many people say this event truly marks the start of Christmas. We hope to see lots of you there. Please look out for our posters for more details. Tickets, price £5 (a bargain!) should be available from Starbucks News and from choir members.

Meanwhile we wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Nick Willmot

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## Rolleston W.I.

The Women's Institute was founded on two premises: to educate rural women and to aid growth and preservation of food during WW1. Of course it had a beneficial advantage in many ways by building friendships and co-operation, sharing skills and making a difference to national issues on a personal level. All this is still true today. Our recent speakers have been both entertaining and informative. We have looked back at the food we used to eat and laughed a lot. We learned about a real suffragette from her own granddaughter, actually holding the badges and ribbons she wore. Amazing! In response to a talk on Calke Abbey by Dot Morson, we went on a visit to see the house and gardens for ourselves. Outings are always popular. In November we have tickets to see Calendar Girls the musical in Stoke and also our annual outing to Tissington Hall to experience "Neverland" followed by lunch. We like to learn new skills and are looking forward to a craft evening where we may make decorations to sell at our Christmas Fair. Food features a lot in our social times, sometimes homemade but we often treat ourselves. We have a cheese tasting evening coming up for members and friends, our Christmas Lunch will be at the Boar's Head and later in December our very own Party. We support other WI activities and several of us will be going to the next Group Meeting hosted by Doveside WI and arranged by Helen Barnett, the Group Co-ordinator or travelling to Stafford for the Autumn Council Meeting.

Our Christmas Fair is at 2pm on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> November at Rolleston Club. Please come along and bring your friends. There will be gifts to buy, games, delicious cakes and tea and may be Father Christmas will be there.

We have lots of interesting speakers on our programme. If you would like to give Rolleston WI a try, please come along as a visitor and we will make you welcome.

We meet on the first Monday of the month at the John of Rolleston School, Chapel Lane at 7.15pm. You can ring the secretary on 813833 for details.

Jenny Phillips



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Fabulous Floating Flowers on giant lily pads Well Dressing Peace Poles - a thoughtful and moving installation Peace Exhibition of Paintings & Photographs in the OGS



## Hope & Help

As we approach the anniversary of the peace negotiations following Armistice, and outbursts of joyous celebrations, we enter a period of peaceful reflection. You are invited to join RoDSEC with your help and ideas for making our Peace Celebration a worthwhile and memorable experience for everyone. If you would like to get involved please contact John Phillips 813833. In particular, we need to recruit more Well Dressers and Mummers. Thank you.