

Small Talk

Welcome to Small Talk, your local newsletter with all the news, events and information for your area!

Tunstead Primary News

Half term is nearly here (18th - 22nd February) and before the kids go back to school on 25th, Melissa and the team will be preparing for 11-15 March's Science Week with a Mad Science event on 12th March for all your budding young

Einsteins or Rosalind Franklins!

There is a full calendar of events on at the school which can always be checked at

www.tunsteadprimaryschool.co.uk

Police Connect

If you have anything to report, please contact Norfolk Constabulary on 101 or in an emergency always dial 999. There were reports over Christmas of 2 men trying to enter sheds and garages locally, please keep your outbuildings secure and report any damage.

SCAM Awareness

Norfolk County Council Trading Standards Rogue Trader Alert: Reports of 2 males driving a blue Ford Transit cold calling at homes saying "they've spotted loose roof tiles" and offering to "fix them" for a small fee.

Please report any further Norfolk sightings to 03454 040506

Claims of a **new scam** called "Brushing" have evolved. Packages you didn't order from online selling platforms show up on your doorstep. A brushing scam means that someone has gained access at minimum to your name and mailing address but depending on how they gathered this data potentially other personal and financial information as well.

Scammers do this to make the purchases look genuine and avoid violating the selling sites' terms that prevent them providing reviews for their own products.

If you begin receiving packages that are addressed to you, but you did not order, contact the retailer immediately.

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Litter Bugs

Thanks go to the residents of Tunstead & Sco-Ruston for continuing to pick

up litter and keep the village clean.

There is a growing problem of litter thrown from cars cutting through the Tunstead Road. If anyone spots the culprits please report to 101.

The Parish Council plan to organise a litter pick soon - please keep an eye on the Tunstead Facebook page for a date and time.

RACE NIGHT

23rd March



Tickets £5 each

Doors open at 7pm with the first race at 8pm on Saturday, 23rd March, at Place UK's barn. There is a reasonably priced bar and hot snacks are included in the ticket price. Bets will be £1. All proceeds go to the Tunstead Village Hall and Recreation Ground charity fund. Please call 01603 783377, email tvhandrecreation@gmail.com or see any member of the committee for tickets.

Parish Council News in Brief...

The Parish Council has applied for extra money to fund the cleaning of ditches in the area to help clear roads of standing water.

Local Elections will be held in May 2019 for both District and Parish Councillors. See North Norfolk District Council's website for more information.

FROM OUR NEIGHBOURS IN ASHMANHAUGH...

Tunstead & Sco Ruston Parish Council are unofficially linking up with our neighbours in Ashmanhaugh so we can share news and events!



Ashmanhaugh Light Railway – January 2019

You may think that there is little to do on miniature railways during the Winter, but you'd be wrong! There is much to do once the operating season has finished. All the signals, the CCTV cameras, and the signs are taken into the workshop and item by item, cleaned down, and checked for condition, then serviced, repaired and painted as necessary before being carefully stored. All the gnomes, fairies and little people are taken in and given a good wash before being stored in boxes for the Winter. The carriages and wagons are all carefully checked and condition noted in case any painting needs doing in the, hopefully, warmer weather in the Spring, when each one is serviced to ensure it is in good condition for the operating season. The steam locos are all separated from their tenders and drained of water, then taken up to the top workshop where they are covered with blankets and duvets to protect them from the icy temperatures over the winter. All the locos will be given a good service in the Spring.

Our 'track gang' continues to work through the winter improving the track and points to ensure we give a smooth ride to our visitors (and our rolling stock!)

This Spring we plan to replace the timber sleepers in the Lake section with plastic ones as the timber, although treated, is prone to rotting on this section of the railway

We are also working on 'Thunderbox', one of our 'characterful' petrol engined locos which has been out of action for a couple of years now awaiting attention. The plan is to get the loco running this year as it will be 30 years old! We are planning to have a special Open Day in June to celebrate this and also to remember the Little Melton Light Railway which also would have been celebrating its 30th year of operation this year had it 'survived'. We owe much to that railway as we purchased several carriages, Thunderbox, and The General, also eventually, Hotspur, along with much of their track. So the Little Melton Railway survives at Ashmanhaugh!

Open days 2019:

1st Sunday in the Month (weather permitting)

Preston Room Committee Contacts:

Chairman - Steve Newstead - Tel 783045
Secretary - Sue Watts - Tel 783297
Treasurer - Hazel Flavell
Bookings Secretary - Pam Culley Tel 782041

Ashmanhaugh Parish Council Clerk Contact:

Clare Male
Tel: 07803 705434
Email: ashmanhaughparishcouncil@gmail.com

ASHMANHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL NEWS...

There are some interesting projects underway....APC has submitted a bid to Norfolk County Council for part funding of a SAM2 sign. These are electronic speed monitoring signs which flash up vehicle speeds and capture data on traffic. Their impact is 2-fold - to act as a deterrent to drivers to reduce their speed and to collect data to monitor traffic volumes and speeds which can then be shared with the village and with Norfolk Police. The Parish Council will maintain the device and move it around the village to monitor traffic, primarily at the crossroads. We will hear if our bid has been successful in March.

Ashmanhaugh Common - the ditch has now been dug out and we are awaiting delivery of railway sleepers to mark the edge of the Common along the edge of Church Road. These will be installed with room for cars to turn but preventing further erosion of the Common.

Please join us at our Annual Parish meeting on the 12th March 2019, 7pm at the Preston Rooms. This is your chance to hear about what is going on in the village and also to put forward ideas for our next projects.

ST SWITHIN'S CHURCH - NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BENEFICE

We have a new communications committee who are working hard to improve how we publicise and share information about the 5 churches in the St Benet's benefice. Initially, we are all working on the "A Church Near You" websites so they are more uniform, up to date and interesting. At St Swithin we have a new pattern to services i.e. Holy Communion at 11am on the first Sunday and Morning Prayer at 9.30am on the 4th Sunday.

Anne Mulhall, Church Warden

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The Preston Rooms

Our first event for 2019 is a **VILLAGE LUNCH** being held on **Saturday 16th March 2019, 12 noon for 12.30pm**. Please, please come along and support this event. We are offering homemade soup and bread followed by homemade puddings. The cost is £5 per person including tea/coffee. Please let us know you will be attending by phoning myself on 01603 783297 or Pam on 01603 782041 by 12th March.

Our **AGM** will be held on Tuesday 19th March, 7pm at the Preston Rooms. Everyone is invited to attend to find out what's been achieved in 2018 and what our plans are for 2019. We would also love to see you if are thinking of joining the Committee.

Poetry Evening is being held on Friday 26th April at 7pm. Come along for an evening of poetry. Bring a favourite poem to read, have it read by someone else, or just sit back and enjoy listening. Entry is £3 including refreshments with all proceeds going to the Preston Rooms. If you would like further information telephone Aileen on 01603 781451.

Sue Watts

Secretary