

# Scarning Newsletter October 2011

## **Grant Awards**

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that this year it has made grants to Seaming School and Scaming Pre school. The school has been awarded £1,500 to create a wildlife pond for the school and the community. The pre school has been awarded £2,000 towards improvements within the pre school building.

## **Christmas is coming**

Christmas is coming and as part of this year's celebrations the Parish Council is to purchase two Christmas trees for the village. One will be put outside the school, the second outside the church. It is planned to hold a Christmas Tree Fair in the church next year.

## **Water Meadows**

The Parish Council, in conjunction with Wensum Valley Trust, is hoping to become responsible for a greater area of the Water Meadows. The large playing field on the meadows is currently leased by the Parish Council, as is the smaller play area. The Parish Council hopes to take over responsibility for the pond at Blackthorn Drive, as well as land near Ted Ellis Walk. The Council will also manage the grassy area between the stream and Draytonhall Lane housing estate.

Breckland Council will continue to be responsible for maintaining the bridges, fences, paths, hedges and trees. The Parish Council intends to improve the area and to encourage wildlife. Work has already begun near Ted Ellis Walk, where willow trees have been cut back or removed, and a number of scrapes - or series of small shallow pools - have been created.

The Parish Council has also agreed to clear the pond at Blackthorn Drive, work on which should commence shortly. It is planned to eventually put up boardwalks in certain areas of the meadows together with information boards about the flora and fauna that can be seen. Most of the work will continue to be carried out by a dedicated team of volunteers and the more volunteers there are the quicker the site can be restored to its former glory.

Scarning Water Meadows is a beautiful area and if you are able to give a few hours here and there towards its maintenance it will help to preserve this valuable piece of the village for future generations. If you would like to volunteer, or find out more information about the project, please contact Steve Dalliston of Wensum Valley Trust on 01362 652881.

### **Bag it, Tie it and Bin it**

The Parish Council is spearheading a campaign to improve the use of dog bins in the village. A series of posters are being displayed on notice boards throughout the village urging those who do not already do so to use the bins provided for their dog waste.

The Council, in conjunction with Breckland Council, has also been distributing leaflets informing residents that dog waste from their homes can be deposited into their green household waste bins. This is to ensure that the dog bins in the village are used only by those out walking their dogs and not from any excess, which otherwise means the bins fill too quickly. There are currently ten dog bins in the village, four of which are on the Water Meadows. The cooperation of all residents would be greatly appreciated in tackling this issue.

### **New Councillor**

Mrs Patricia Page has been co-opted onto the Parish Council, bringing the council up to its full complement of nine members.

### **Scarning United Charities**

Scarning United Charities is a small charity run for the benefit of any residents in the village who are facing hardship, need or distress. Each year the charity has a fund from which it can make grants. If you know a worthy recipient, please write to Ken Steward, Lawrence Farm, Daffy Green, Seaming, NR19 2LF. Please note that applications can only be accepted from third parties on behalf of the claimant/s, and not by the claimant/s.

### **Allotment for Hire**

There is currently at least one vacant allotment in the village for hire. For more details please contact Ken Steward on 820122.

### **No Muck Please**

Horse riders in the village are reminded that it is against the law to ride your horse on the pavement. There have recently been reports of horse muck on the main path to the village school, Ted Ellis Walk and other areas. Riders are asked to please refrain from riding on the pavement.

### **The Big Draw**

The Big Draw public workshop entitled 'Drawing from Movement' will be on 18 October from 10.30am to 3.30pm in the Village Hall. The workshop will bring together members of Thalia Theatre Company, the Scarning Art Group and the local

community. Everyone is welcome to come along and share the experience.

### **Church Open Day**

The recent Church Open Day was a great success, with an encouraging attendance by villagers of all ages. A pictorial display of events held throughout the year was on show, depicting the important role the church has played in village life in the past and continues to play in Seaming today. The appeal for financial aid to help toward the maintenance of the church for the future benefit of the parish was positively supported by visitors. As there is an urgent ongoing need for financial support towards the maintenance of the village church, any person wishing to make a donation, or regular giving, should contact the church's Gift Aid Officer Mike Quinnell on 698954.