

Scarning Newsletter

July 2011

Looking for Funding?

At its meeting in September, the Parish Council will be considering grants to community groups in the village. If your group would like to apply for funding, please see full details of eligibility on the parish website www.scarning.info.

Alternatively, if you would like to talk to someone prior to making an application, then please contact the parish clerk for an informal chat on 687492 between 9am and 6pm. Please note that all applications must be received by 31 August 2011.

It's Party Time

Are you looking for a venue for a children's party? Then why not try Scarning Village Hall? The hall has been refurbished throughout, has modern kitchen facilities and a large garden suitable for a Bouncy Castle. The hall is suitable for all manner of other functions, from christening parties to wedding receptions. For more information, or to make a booking, please call 687492.

Make a Difference

Can you spare an hour or two to help local residents? If so, there are a number of ways you could give a real boost to other people's lives.

Voluntary Norfolk operates a local volunteering scheme and is looking to involve people in a wide range of activities. These include people who are socially isolated, to helping local health teams support patients.

Volunteers are also needed to assist with practical tasks, such as decorating and gardening. There are currently over 1,000 different volunteering opportunities which you could get involved in.

If you are interested in registering as a volunteer, please e mail john.lee@voluntarynorfolk.org.uk

Timely Recognition

The Parish Council has installed a new bench on the Village Playing Field in recognition of the many years of loyal service to the village by former councillors Alan Glister and Norman Eagle.

Events and Activities

If you have a story about local activities or a forthcoming event relating to Scarning that you would like to advertise in this newsletter, please send full details to Oakleigh House, Shipdham Lane, Scarning, NR192LB.

Please note that details of : any events generally need to be submitted at least six " weeks in advance.

Scarning Fuel Allotment Charity

Scarning Fuel Allotment Charity 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 the clerk to the charity at Oakleigh House, Shipdham Lane, Scarning, NR19 2LB. All information is treated in the strictest confidence.

Your Parish Church Needs You!

The village website calls Scarning "the village at the centre of Norfolk", and at the heart of Scarning stands our parish church dedicated to St Peter and St Paul.

The church has stood proudly at the top of the hill since the 12th century and there is evidence that parts of an earlier building were recycled into the current one. It is a Grade 1 listed building.

The overall design of the church is quite simple, but there are some very special features including a 13th century font and a splendid east window which was installed in Victorian times. The six bells are unusual in that they are believed to have been cast on site by an itinerant bell founder. One bell is inscribed "Charles Newman made mee 1703."

Augustus Jessopp, a distinguished author and rector of Scarning from 1879 to 1911, recorded that the village then comprised a few significant properties and about fifty hovels. How times have changed !

The church is here for everyone and plays a major part in many people's lives at special times, such as baptisms and weddings, as well as funerals. There is a weekly service at 11.15 each Sunday and lots of people come to the special

services at Christmas and Easter.

Scarning Parochial Church Council runs the church and is doing its utmost to keep it in reasonable condition.

Events held at the church are well supported and the PCC is grateful to the Parish Council for taking care of cutting the grass in the churchyard.

So far, so good, but there is a big BUT!

The regular congregation is relatively small and running costs are substantial. As well as contributing to the diocese to help pay for the ministry, there are all the day to day costs, such as insurance, maintenance, lighting and heating.

Urgent repairs are needed to the tower roof and to the windows in the south side of the nave, and we hope this work will be done this year. There is enough in our fabric fund to cover these projects, but we need to replenish the fund in order to keep the church in reasonable order. Rainwater disposal might be the next challenge, with new gutters, downpipes and soakaways.

You may be wondering why we don't get a major grant from English Heritage towards the repairs. The reason is simple - our church is not in such a dire

condition as others and we don't want to let it reach that state.

We believe that most people in Scarning would like the church to be there for generations to come. It is a unique part of our heritage.

In order to secure the future of St Peter and St Paul, we need more income and we are asking for your help, please. A simple donation would be excellent - but it would be even better if lots of people in the village

pledged to give a regular amount (however small) to help maintain the church and its ministry. If you are a taxpayer we could also claim Gift Aid worth 25 pence for every £ 1 donated.

We are holding an Open Day on Friday 12 August from 10am to 3pm. Come along for a cuppa and a chat and see what is special about your village church. We would, of course, be delighted to receive any donations then, or to have a chat about regular giving.

If you would like more information, please contact Sue Rockley, secretary to Scarning Parochial Church Council, on 01362 694886.

We look forward to seeing you on 12 August, or on any' Sunday morning when you are guaranteed a warm welcome.