

**ROLLRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL (correct to 5<sup>th</sup> May) :**

Chair	Roz Wiley	730830
Deputy Chair	Gavin Southwell	730888
Councillors	Jan Wilkinson	730268
	Duncan Midwood	
	Bob Humphrey	730331
Parish Clerk	Sue Glasson	730880

**USEFUL Numbers:**

**EMERGENCIES: 999**

Police (Non-emergencies): **101**

**Potholes:** Directly to Oxfordshire County Council by email:

<http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

**Faulty Street Lights:** 0800 317802; give location and number on the pole

**Electricity Power Failure: 105**

The Rollright News is produced through the Parish Council three times a year (prior to Easter, in August and December) it is printed by Kopyrite.

Please forward items for the next issue before **Friday July 2021** preferably by email to Roz

[leo2roz@gmail.com](mailto:leo2roz@gmail.com)

# Rollright News

Spring 2021



VILLAGE WEBSITE: [www.rollrightreview.co.uk](http://www.rollrightreview.co.uk)



[NHWgtrollright@gmail.com](mailto:NHWgtrollright@gmail.com)



## From the Parish Council Chair.....

As you are aware, I was going step down from the Parish Council in May 2020 but as all elections were cancelled it followed on (as it did with County & District Councils) that all the Parish Councillors would continue in post until May 2021.

This year's Local Elections are taking place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May and having been on the Parish Council for well over 20 years it is most definitely time that I retire!

It has been a great privilege, honour and delight to have served the village but I could not have done it without the amazing help and support that I've received over the years both from all the other Parish Councillors but especially from our Parish Clerk, Sue Glasson who is so efficient and has such a wealth of knowledge, a HUGE thank you from me to you all and of course to our County Councillor, Hilary Biles who is also standing down this year, she has served our village well.

COVID-19 restrictions are slowly being eased, it really has been the most dreadful time for everyone and I'm sure none of us will look back on 2020 with much joy but the light at end of the tunnel is in sight (at long last) due to the vaccination programme and we must be thankful for that and the amazing NHS.

The Parish Council have always wanted to have the funds to bring the Playground up to date and last year Bob Humphrey offered to oversee renewed efforts in this direction. Thanks to his incredibly hard work and dedication we are getting there (see the article on this further on in this issue)

Due to the pandemic our bi-monthly Council meetings have had to be on Zoom, however these should be back in the small committee room for 5<sup>th</sup> July. The minutes are always posted onto our website and on the Notice Board (more on that further in this issue)

The signs of spring are already in evidence and feelings of hope and optimism abound, I wish everyone health and happiness for the future and my thanks for your support over the years, my very best wishes to you all and to the new Council, thank you.

*Roz* (Wiley)



I am Simon Cock and I am the Honorary Treasurer of the VILLAGE HALL, which is a registered charity (number 1037138). The Trustees are very aware that there are always things to be done to both make the hall better and to keep it in the best possible condition. All this costs money so we are asking everyone in the village to help. **The hall is now registered with "GIVE AS YOU LIVE"**. This organisation has tied up with some 4000 ON-LINE retailers who, when asked, donate a small percentage of their sales to charities specified by the shoppers. If all of you, who shop on-line with the participating retailers, tell "Give as you Live" to direct this small percentage (often only 1% but 'every little helps') to **Great Rollright Village Hall** we will benefit and the more of you who do this the more money we'll raise. It is very simple to register, log on to: [www.giveasyoulive.com](http://www.giveasyoulive.com) and follow the easy to follow instructions, choosing Great Rollright Village Hall as your chosen Charity. You don't even have to remember when you actually shop, as if you tell them of your chosen retailers (again you do this by following the instructions on their website) as soon as you log on to shop a message will pop up asking you to confirm that you want to raise money for GRVH. How fiendishly clever the web can be!!

The good news is that it costs you nothing and makes no difference to the prices you pay or the service you get from your favourite retailers. This sounds to me like a WIN, WIN, situation for us all.

**SO PLEASE JOIN AS SOON AS YOU CAN and THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



From St Andrew's Church

As you will see from this year's Easter card we are, God willing, going to be restarting services in church at 8am on 28<sup>th</sup> March, Palm Sunday. This is the day we celebrate Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and it seems appropriate that we are planning to make a joyful return to in-person services again.

Palm Sunday also marks the beginning of Holy Week. We would normally be joining together on 1<sup>st</sup> April, Maundy Thursday, for a Passover Supper. This year we are still going to be gathering but remotely on Zoom with a shared takeaway supper, by the time you receive your Rollright News it will be too late to order food but please do still join us online.

Good Friday sees us gathering in St Peter's Church, Hook Norton at 12 noon for a service of midday prayers and on Easter Day we will be celebrating together with Holy Communion at **10.30am** in St Andrew's Church, please note the later service start time to accommodate the Rector needing to be at three services that morning.

As previously if you would like to attend any of the in-person services you must book in advance. For the 10am services at St Peter's Church and for the service on Good Friday please contact Judy Ormerod ([jsormerod@hotmail.com](mailto:jsormerod@hotmail.com)), for services in St Andrew's and for any other services around the benefice please contact the Rector ([rector@hooknortonbenefice.org.uk](mailto:rector@hooknortonbenefice.org.uk)).

My prayers for you all as we reach the end of a long year of lockdown.

Sarah Durham (Churchwarden [greatrollrightchurchwarden@yahoo.com](mailto:greatrollrightchurchwarden@yahoo.com) )

#### **ELECTION DAY:** THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MAY

The Village Hall will be open for Election Day, this is allowed under Government Regulations. It has been inspected as classed as a suitable venue as there will be a one-way system in place, all doors will be open for ventilation and appropriate sanitisation procedures will be in place.

#### **A.G.M.'s**

These annual meetings on behalf of the Parish Council and Village Hall could not take place last year for obvious reasons, however the law states that these must take place after an election and legislation has approved that ours will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May beginning at 7pm with the Village Hall followed by the Parish Council. The Hall will be under stringent COVID-19 procedures as for Election Day and 2 metre social distancing will be strictly adhered to together with the necessity of wearing masks.





There were lots of happy faces when we reopened our doors for everyone last month—children, staff and parents! During the January-February lockdown, only about a third of our 100 children were still in school, while the rest were at home learning remotely. School life is still not back to normal — we still need to stay in our carefully segregated class ‘bubbles’. But it’s wonderful to have everyone back in the building, and we’ve been pleased by how eager the children have been to throw themselves back into ‘live’ learning.

Some recent highlights:

**Indian Partnership:** Green issues are very close to our heart here at Great Rollright. In the autumn we earned our first international Eco School Green Flag award. And now we’re honoured to be one of only 10 schools in the country chosen for take part in the ‘Green Schools Partnership.’ We’ve been twinned with another environmentally-minded, small church primary school — 5,000 miles away in Eluru, India. Over the next two years our children will share ideas about how young people can work to save the planet.

**Book Week:** We’ve never been able to limit ourselves to a single World Book Day, but always make it the excuse for a full week of activities celebrating the joy of reading. This year, though, World Book Day fell before the full reopening of schools — so we had our first ever Virtual Book Week, featuring book-themed activities and crafts, and popular videos of staff reading their favourite books. It worked so well that we’ve now created a permanent virtual school library on our website, where children can find links to hundreds of books being read aloud.

**Easter:** We were glad to be back together to celebrate the lead-up to Easter, even though COVID precautions forced changes to our usual activities. We missed our whole-school Easter service in St Andrew’s — but we still managed to hunt for Easter eggs!

School tours are suspended at present, but there’s a virtual tour on our website (<https://great-rollright.oxon.sch.uk/>). And we’re happy to chat anytime about what we offer — please call us on 01608 737202. We look forward to hearing from you!

Michelle Hastings, Headteacher

Who drops all this litter?

There may be measures that can be put in place and the Parish Council is also able to do something to help. (I took part in a lengthy discussion around this during this month’s Parish Council meeting)

But.....where does it really start?

With **us** of course – it’s **our** Village and we should be proud of it, and we need to show that.....watch this space!

*Mark Powell*

### LITTER UPDATE

I am delighted to report on the latest news.....the Parish Council has purchased Hi-Viz jackets, hand-held litter picker-uppers (!), black sacks and disposable gloves to enable me to form an initial ‘working party’, however with COVID-19 rules still in place this sadly means that we cannot get started just yet.

**However, all is not lost!** All the equipment (see above) will be left under cover in the rear porch at the Village Hall so anyone can come along and make a start.

When your bin liner is full please put it in the large waste bin at the hall and return the other equipment back in the porch, very many thanks (in anticipation!)

*Mark P*



## LITTER

Early in February a very community spiritly minded resident has been litter picking today in the village, she was almost in tears. The village is full of litter. She filled a bag from just the High Street to the scrap yard. It is soul destroying. Can you help? What can we do as a village? Can we set up a group and buy some litter picking bits and some signs?

Below is an image of the UK made by an Artist in Ipswich using Litter that he had collected.



Litter has become a growing problem over recent years, and it does seem that whenever you go out for a walk you are never more than a few feet away from pieces of litter that have been dropped by someone.

Additionally, PPE Litter (for example discarded Face Coverings) seem to be more and more common.

Sadly, Great Rollright is also suffering from this growing problem.

There is a vast array of all sorts of different types of litter – empty beer cans, crisp packets, plastic bags, various bits plastic/cardboard packaging.

Some may be inadvertently dropped from pockets or dropped out during refuse collections. Others are clearly discarded from passing cars.

## Children's Playground

The Parish Council has always wanted to provide the children in our village with better facilities in the Playground and towards the end of last year began to apply for various grants that might be available to us to supplement the £1000 that we had already raised.

Our target is £50,000 which would enable us to completely re-new the whole playground with new equipment, so far we have received the following:

Oxfordshire County Council donated £5000 which the Parish Council has matched.

The National Lottery fund donated £9000.

We are hopeful that West Oxfordshire District Council will also give approval to our donation request of £10,000 and should find out next month.

Rollright resident Anthony Peters has an annual charity appeal where he asks all his many online followers to donate to a charity of his choice and over the years has raised a great deal of money for various local good causes.

This year he kindly chose to support the Playground and then the money just started to roll in from literally all over the world. It was just astonishing (to say the least) to watch the total amount going up hour by hour. In less than a week an amazing sum of £13,544 was donated.

Words cannot adequately express how incredibly grateful we are to him, I'm speechless and that doesn't happen very often!

There is now a village fund raising page dedicated to the playground, please follow this link for details of how **YOU** could donate funds:

[www.justgiving.com/rollrightvillagehall](http://www.justgiving.com/rollrightvillagehall)



## VILLAGE BULLETIN BOARD

*Sign up to get all the latest news!*



Sue Glasson

merrymoons@me.com

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## POST OFFICE SERVICES:

The mobile **Post Office**® van comes to the village and parks in the Village Hall car park, it offers a wide range of services.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>12.15 – 13.15</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>14.15 – 15.15</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12.15 – 13.15</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>14.15 – 15.15</b>

**There is NO Friday or weekend service.**

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EST. 1849  
**HOOK NORTON**  
BREWERY



The shop is open 7 days a week

Monday – Saturday 9am to 5pm

Sunday 10am to 4pm

Also available:-

Click & Collect & a local delivery service

Tours will be re-starting in April

(with restrictions in place)

The Malthouse Kitchen will re-open on 17<sup>th</sup> May

Phone: 01608 730384

[www.hooky.co.uk](http://www.hooky.co.uk)



**17th May - An evening with Mike Napier.**

Mike lives in the village and he will share with us his journey from Tornado pilot to an accomplished writer of 11 books!

**21st June - James Haddow - The Taxi Driver Poet.**

James is the Taxi Driver Poet and for more than 16 years he was writing and reciting poetry to his passengers, entertaining them with his rhymes on life and love as he drove them around rural Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. James now spends his time writing and performing his poetry whenever and wherever he can, reliving his journeys and encounters along the way.

Let's look ahead for brighter days that are coming. Spring is on its way!

Take care, stay safe. We look forward to seeing you.

Martene

Great Rollright WI President

Email: [greatrollrightwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:greatrollrightwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk) for more information.



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**WALKING IN ENGLAND**

In these peculiar times when people are walking more than usual many are interested in finding new local walks.

My website, Walking in Oxfordshire, has loads of walks available for free download and printing.

John Harris [www.walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire)

*Since the beginning of the Covid-19 lockdown, the RollrightReview has tried to provide a valuable communication channel for the people of Great Rollright. We have tried to provide useful information during the 2 lockdowns and it seems that the number of visitors to the site has continued to increase. At the last count we have had a total of 2090 visitors to the site since we re-designed it, and this encourages us to continue improving the information provided and what the site offers. Whenever we have received useful information about Covid-19, we have published this and tried to provide information to allow people to help others needing a helping hand.*

*Very recently we have added a Forum to the site with the aim of encouraging more contributions from the readers. There are three categories:- The Village in Photographs, Rollright History and Village News. You may have some photographs that you'd like to share or something of interest about the past or the present. Please do try it out and we'd love to see contributions from across the village. Do bear in mind that whatever you post on the forum has to be suitable for general publication for all ages.*

*The site also went through some additional changes this year to ensure that it is compliant with the latest GDPR requirements. You may have spotted some changes and these are to ensure that everyone can access the site and read the information clearly.*

*Finally, I would like to ask for feedback on the site. Do we provide the right type and level of information to be useful for you? Please do contact us via the Contact Form on the site or to contact Trevor Withell ([trevor.withell@icloud.com](mailto:trevor.withell@icloud.com)) or Sue Glasson if you have any suggestions.*

*Thanks for your continued support, **The RollrightReview Team***

## ROLLRIGHT VILLAGE HALL

March 2021 and it is now an entire year, 12 months, 365 very long days since the hall has received any income. No events, no weekly groups, no parties, nothing at all and so, sadly, it must continue like this until 21<sup>st</sup> June assuming all the Government's plans go according to plan.

We continue to carry out the weekly fire safety and water checks to comply with the (many) regulations both for Health & Safety and Insurance purposes.

Jan (Wilkinson) is the Bookings Secretary and will be in touch with all our regular users as soon as we have a confirmed date to re-open. We sweep through the hall regularly, but it will be having a really intensive deep clean prior to re-opening.

The hall WILL be open to allow the Elections to take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May as this is a legal permitted use. There will be a one-way system in place and all the doors will be open to allow sufficient ventilation throughout, hand sanitizer will be provided and you are encouraged to bring your own biro or pencil along. The staff will have a screen in front of them and of course social distancing will be the norm and the wearing of masks is mandatory. Exactly the same rules will apply on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May for both of the Village's A.G.M. meetings.

We continue to have our meetings via Zoom and are already thinking ahead and ideas that have been mooted include maybe a table-top/car boot sale and perhaps a party later in the year to celebrate 'Freedom' from restrictions, we'll keep you posted!

It has been confirmed now that in June 2022 there will be a 4-day long Bank Holiday Weekend to celebrate (God willing) the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, I feel a definite party needing to be arranged to celebrate that especially as we had to cancel our VE Day party last year!

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the Hall as soon as it is possible.

*Village Hall Trustees*

W We have come through so much individually, with our friends and families and also  
as as a WI. We adapted as a WI and apart from having to postpone our March meeting  
w when the virus took hold we have held a monthly meeting ever since. We have not  
ha had a plan, we just worked through each month not knowing what was coming next  
W What we do know now is that good progress is being made in the fight against this  
vir virus and we are hoping that face to face meetings can come back later this year.

W Whilst zooming has not appealed to all our members it has kept most of us in touch  
wi with a few laughs along the way. We have also booked speakers from all over the co  
tr country to keep us entertained!

- Our recent AGM saw our 3 officers accept their roles for a further 12 months. We
- thank them for volunteering to keep our WI thriving.

Pr President – Martene Midwood

Se Secretary – Heather Knight

T Treasurer – Irene Hills

O Our annual membership opens from 1<sup>st</sup> April so if you would like to join please do  
in get in touch via our email or by speaking to a member. A taster is available before  
YO you commit.

**O Our next 3 meetings will be using zoom as we currently still cannot meet in the  
ag village hall. 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month @ 7.30pm.**

**1 19<sup>th</sup> April – Stephen Wells – The Story of Butlin's Holiday Camps.**

S Stephen will share with us his story from being a Butlin Redcoat to being  
E Entertainment Executive responsible for putting on the biggest names in Show  
Bu Business. A great talk with lots of great stories about the stars, including Cliff  
Richard, Des O'Connor, Jimmy Tarbuck, Ringo Starr, Dave Allen, Tommy Trinder and  
many more.

**(Continued overleaf)**



## GREAT ROLLRIGHT WI

**Inspiring, having fun and still 'zooming' to get together!**

Well where to begin?

It's hard to believe we have not seen our members in person at a meeting for over a year, the last 12 months seems to have been the longest year ever! Whilst we might be thankful that it's over and we have all been through some challenging times, there have also been some memorable events that will be with us for a lifetime.

A Global pandemic, a national lockdown, panic buying of toilet roll, pasta and bottled water, washing your hands whilst singing Happy Birthday. The Prime Minister in Intensive care, daily Coronavirus briefings, with the well-known phrase, 'next slide please'. We came together as a nation as we clapped for carers, Trump was defeated, Megan and Harry quit, we have defended Black Lives Matter, joined the biggest PE Lesson with Joe Wicks (or equivalent), stayed at home to protect our families, we home schooled a nation, gained new accessories; face masks and hand sanitiser.

Safe and effective vaccines were developed in record time (the quickest prior was 4 years in the 60's for mumps).

We launched an active village volunteer network, thanks to Marilina which was successful and helped many in need.

Many of us have found a love for walking and we all moved more online with virtual hugs, catch ups, quizzes, watching the theatre and generally adapting. I think we have all missed our loved ones.

## NEWS FROM ROLLRIGHT GARDEN CLUB

The delightful sight of daffodils reminds us of the joy of nature and nudges us to get in the garden! The Rollright Garden Club, like many other clubs and activities has been mothballed for a year, but encouraged by the optimism of the Government, we are hoping to put a modest programme together for 2021.

<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	Plant sale in the Village Hall car park
<b>July</b> (date to be confirmed):	Village Garden Trail
<b>August</b> (date to be confirmed):	Botanical Painting Workshop
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September:</b>	Talk by Val Bourne
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October:</b>	Talk by Timothy Walker

Members of the club will be emailed the details, but if anyone isn't a member and would like to join (this is not the Royal Horticultural Society!) membership is £6 for an individual and £10 for a couple. At the last count we had 65 members

.Please contact me for further details if you are interested.

Jane Stillwell 737517 or [janestillwell@me.com](mailto:janestillwell@me.com)

## THE GREEN

Hopefully everyone will notice the changes that have taken place on The Green!

**NEW POSTS:** Over two years ago we had both GigaClear & Thames Water in the village causing great disruption everywhere especially where they used The Green. Our Parish Clerk has persisted with our claim for the damaged posts to be replaced and finally they agreed to replace ALL of them which was wonderful news. Bob Humphrey, Rob Whitaker and Terry Folkes have done a sterling job of shortening them a little, rounding the tops and staining them, thank you gentlemen and to others who helped too.



## PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Well before the world had heard of COVID-19 the Parish Council was contacted by Chipping Norton School, some of the older boys needed a project as part of their school work. They had to design and build a structure and were more than happy to take on our task of a replacement Parish Notice Board. They presented us with various designs and then started to work.....the pandemic set in so it all took a little longer than originally thought but after Christmas we were delighted to hear that it was ready for collection from Hook Norton. We called on Geoff Williams and his trusty truck along with others to help transport it over (it is incredibly heavy!).

Actually erecting it on The Green took all of our 'handyman' helpers (Bob, Rob, Terry & Geoff) and not forgetting Jan and her trusty spade! Thank you all.

So then, our new Parish Notice Board proudly stands, we are grateful to the boys of the School and wish them well for their future.



## BOOK EXCHANGE BOX

In the first instance we have to thank Wendy (Fillery) for this idea and for resourceful Rob Whitaker for both the design and building of our Book Exchange Box, the idea is simple just bring along a book and swap it for a different one!



***The Parish Council sincerely thanks ALL those involved in making The Green look so smart and especially to Terry & Dice who keep the grass mown all year round!***