



Autumn/Winter 2010

Riccall Parish Council

The Regen Centre

t/f: 01757 249222

e: [clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)

w: [www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)

[www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)

WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL? WWW.RICCALLPARISHCOUNCIL.ORG.UK

# The Riccall Beacon - Autumn/Winter 2010

## New Premises for Riccall PC



We have moved into new premises at the Regen Centre in early October. The new Council office is upstairs next to the computer suite. Council Clerk, Lindsey Ryan, is already working at the Centre and we hope to hold some Councillor surgeries for residents in the future. If you would like to speak to the Council Clerk please make an appointment by phoning us on 01757 249222 or emailing [clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)

## New members of the Council

Welcome to new Parish Councillors Keith Rookes and Pippa James who joined us back in April this year. Both Councillors have completed training, with more planned and are keen to be active within the Council and within Riccall. You can check out their profiles on our website.

[www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)



## Riccall salt bins on their way for this Winter



Riccall Parish Council has just ordered ten new salt bins for the village to trial in various locations. The bins will receive an initial fill of salt, with one further fill later in the Winter. The salt is intended for use on public footpaths and can be utilised by the Community. We stress that this is a trial for this Winter. Let us know whether it helped, whether we have the bins in the right locations and if not where should they be (do we need more?). We'll re-assess after the bad weather.

## Parish Plan questionnaire (we need your input)

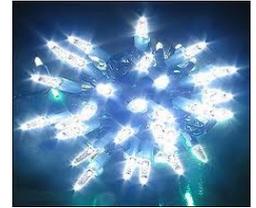
A questionnaire will shortly appear on our website—please visit the site and complete it for us. There is a general resident's questionnaire and a separate one aimed at young people. The original Parish Plan questionnaire, completed by residents back in 2005 gave a fantastic indication of the Community's vision of its own future—many of the things asked for have now been achieved and the Council is really grateful to the Parish Plan group who did such an amazing job of pulling the information together. We are producing an updated version with some new questions on, all specifically about your life in Riccall. Using the results of this, we will be able to confidently shape some of our projects and focus for the future. If you need a hard copy—they will be available from the Regen Centre reception and from the Post Office and can be returned there. If you can complete on-line—then please do. **Thank you.**

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## Riccall Christmas Lights

### Would your business get involved in this project?



Riccall Parish Council is currently looking at some designs to provide new Christmas lights for Riccall Village Green, complementing the lights that are already in the large tree. The Council is currently considering the financial implications of this project and before decisions are made, is looking for local business sponsorship to help with the cost. If your business would be willing to contribute, we would ensure publicity and the gesture would be greatly appreciated by the Council and by the Community of Riccall. Pledge your donations for Christmas 2011 by contacting Lindsey Ryan [clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk). We are hoping to have an area on the website shortly, where donations towards projects can be pledged should businesses or residents within our community wish to do so. Riccall Carnival Committee are also helping to raise money for this project during the Dickensian event this year on December 4th.

**Let's see how much we can raise and light up the centre of Riccall from Christmas 2011**

## New Vikings and Swords grid at Riccall Park

Congratulations to Riccall Primary School pupil, John Battye, aged 7 (pictured) who designed the new 'Vikings and Swords' grid at Riccall Park.



John joined local artist Neil Spilman, Council Clerk Lindsey Ryan, Council Chairman Brian Keen and some other young people to spray paint the safety surfacing

The grid, based on the old game of snakes and ladders, is now available for all to play—just take your own dice down to the park with you and use yourself as the counter!

Also, congratulations and thank you to Gabrielle Ewbank of Mount Pleasant in Riccall, who designed the new sign for Riccall Park, which is soon to be hung from the Beacon.

## Superfast broadband?? Vote for Riccall



Over the next 5 years, BT is rolling out superfast fibre optic broadband across the UK. If you're not on the announced roll out plan - the race to infinity gives you the opportunity to fast track your area to get BT Infinity next. The five areas with the largest percentage of votes by December 31st 2010 will win the chance to bring superfast broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5000 of computer equipment to a local community project. We are currently at 25 votes out of a total of

1148 (2.18%) on Thursday 21st October at 1.35pm (by the time you receive this—hopefully we will be way above that) - so get voting and spread the word!

VOTE FOR RICCALL [www.racetoinfinity.bt.com](http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com)

## Contact Details - Riccall Parish Council

### Chairman 2010/11

Cllr Brian Keen  
Fuchsia Cottage, Kelfield Rd

### Vice-Chairman 2010/11

Cllr Edward Wilkinson  
25 Viking Drive

### Members

**Cllr Howard Adamson** - 12 Holmes Drive, **Cllr Keith Dawson** - 3 Kelfield Rd, **Cllr John Duggan** - 1 Lucerne Close, **Cllr Pippa James** - 2 Church St, **Cllr Ann Kilmartin** - 5 Chapel Lane, **Cllr Keith Rookes** - 9 Chapel Walk, **Cllr Steve Sharp** - 33 York Rd, **Cllr Rupert Somers-Joce** - 9 King Rudding Close, **Cllr David Winterburn** - 20a Kelfield Rd

**Mrs Lindsey Ryan—Clerk/RFO**

**Regen Centre, Landing Lane,  
Riccall YO19 6PW**

**Tel/Fax: (01757) 249222**

**[clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk)**





## Safer Neighbourhood Policing team for Riccall

A warm welcome to you from the Selby Safer Neighbourhoods Policing team.

We would like to update you on an important safety issue. There have been a number of alarming incidents where live high voltage electrical cable has been stolen from areas open to the public. We would like to remind all residents to be aware of this and to make sure that any children are advised to keep away from any cut cable etc. If you see any suspect activity or cable which appears to be cut please contact the police as soon as possible.

There have been a small number of incidents of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour which have been reported. Following enquiries, possible offenders have been identified and appropriate action has been taken.

Operation Jumbo/ Operation Opposite are currently running and are looking at poaching and vulnerable sites for metal/ cable thefts, you can assist us by reporting any suspect activity.

### Route for you date: -

November 26<sup>th</sup>

The times for this are: 13.55-14.35hrs and the bus will be located near the post office. If you have any concerns please contact me.

Adam Wood, PCSO 5364

TEL: **0845 60 60 247**

**All 'Route for you' dates can be found on the Riccall Parish Council website as can details of the Safer Neighbourhood Team and Crime Prevention Advice.**



Yorkshire Water have provided a number you can call free of charge to verify the identity of a doorstep caller claiming to represent them. Simply call 0800 1387878 Remember that all electricity, gas and water companies offer a doorstep password scheme. You create the password and when a representative calls they will give you this unique password to confirm they are legitimate.



If you haven't already done so we recommend you contact each to set up a password. Choose passwords that are unique and that you will remember. Keep them out of sight but where you can easily find it if needed. Close the door first.



Recently a spate of burglaries have been reported to Police, whereby premises have been entered and vehicle keys taken from within. Vehicles are then stolen from the driveway.

Police are urging that people ensure that:

Front doors are locked and premises secure.

Vehicles are locked and left secure.

Vehicle keys are kept out of view.

Any suspicious activity is reported to North Yorkshire Police.

**0845 60 60 247**





## Community Grants Scheme 2010/2011

From 1st April 2010—31st March 2011, Riccall Parish Council has a limited amount of funding available for Riccall community groups to apply for. In an effort to support its community groups, the Parish Council

would like to encourage applications for small grants, up to a maximum of £500. You will need to clearly demonstrate why you need the funding and complete an application form. The remaining deadline

for applications during 2010 is

### 19th November

Contact Lindsey Ryan for an application form or download one from our website

## 1066 and All That?....

Earlier this month, an illustrated lecture was given to the members of the Riccall Historical Society by Dr. Richard Hall of the York Archaeological Trust, under the title “1066 and All That?” The sub-title was “Recent Excavations at Riccall Cemetery”. Riccall Historical Society has provided this summary of the latest thinking on the subject, in the hope that it will be of interest to people who have come to live in the village, and also to those who have always been here.

**The Story from 1066** is that a fleet of 300 Viking ships came up the Ouse to Riccall, and made it their base. The Battle of Fulford was fought on September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Vikings being victorious. The Battle of Stamford Bridge took place on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The remnant of defeated Vikings fled back to Riccall, and needed only 24 ships for their return journey.

### The Archaeological Story

**In December 1956**, Mr. Geoff Outhwaite, of Dam End Farm, was digging a mangold-wurzel pie at the far end of Landing Lane near the river, and found human bones. He contacted Mr. Peter Wenham, a History Tutor at St. John's Training College, York. On Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Wenham made his first visit. On Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>, he came with two adult helpers, and some boys from Nunthorpe Grammar School. The weather conditions – fog, frost etc. – were appalling. Twenty-nine human skeletons were found; in bad condition because they had been near the surface. Peter Wenham thought it was a mass grave, all the bodies having been buried at the same time. The obvious possibility was that it was from 1066, and that the dead were fleeing Vikings.

**In 1958**, investigators from Riccall County School found a further ten skeletons. However, there were factors which did not point to a hasty burial after a battle.

There were women and children as well as men;

Some coffin fittings were found;

There were no sword marks on the bones.

**In 1985**, when the flood bank was built up, the York Archaeological Trust was involved. “We came out, and found more, but there was no money available to do a study.” **Later**, English Heritage subsidised a study of the skeletons.

They were men, women and children from Yorkshire (not Vikings);

Some were buried as early as the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries, and others as late as the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries.

It appears to have been a cemetery for people living in the neighbourhood, perhaps from a Riverside settlement.

There was a prolonged time of discussion with the speaker after the power-point presentation. All the questions have not been answered, and no ship remains have ever been found.

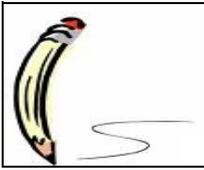
**The Riccall Historical Society meets monthly and all meetings are open to non-members. For further details, please contact the Secretary, Margaret Beedham (01757) 249324.**





# Community Notice Board.....

## Did you have something to add?



This is your section of the Beacon, providing an opportunity for community groups to submit articles about their group and about what it does. Attempts have been made to reach most groups via email but apologies if we have missed yours. Any community group in Riccall can submit an article but we do ask that they are kept to a maximum of around 200 words, so that we can be inclusive and fair to all groups. Ideally please email the article to [clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@riccallparishcouncil.org.uk) The Beacon will be produced three times per year in February, June and October. Many thanks for all of your articles to date. Deadlines for 2011 are 18th February, 17th June and 14th October. **Lindsey Ryan - Editor**

WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL?

### Panto time



## RICCALLISH ALLSORTS

are to produce the pantomime

## TREASURE ISLAND



By Tina and Rob Burbidge

The dates are **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

so write these dates in your diary well in advance

Evening performance 7.30pm

Matinee performance 2pm (Sat 12th)

Tickets £5 and £3 for children

on sale in the Regen early in the New Year (Tel 248849)

This is a real community event with lots of people joining in, in many different ways. We always need plenty of helpers so if you are willing to give a few hours of your time you will be made very welcome. The following are examples: Helping paint scenery, making props, putting up and taking down the rigging, joinery, sewing, working backstage shifting scenery, prompting and working at the front of the house. Giving just a few hours is a great help. Please contact **Chris on 249161**. Apologies that some children may not have found out about the auditions (due to the Beacon being later this year—an advert could not be placed in time). Posters were put up at the Regen Centre and phone calls made. Again, apologies if you were missed out.

### Dickensian Fayre

**4th December 2010**

This year, the Dickensian Fayre will be held on the Village Green on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2010. It will open at 4pm with the ringing of the church bells and continue until 7pm. Get into the festive spirit and come in period costume, whether you are a street urchin, a lady or a "toff." Have a warm round the brazier and visit the "2 doctors" for mulled wine. Festive stalls, hot chestnuts, barrel organ, Town Cryer & old fashioned fairground rides. Light your way up to the church – buy a candle to light the church path, pause for tea & minced pies in the church and then have a go on the tombola.



Monies raised from this event go back into the village! Last year's event is helping towards repairing the arch & light at the church gate on Silver St. Possibly in future we may be able to raise sufficient funds to repair the arch on Church St. We would also like to make Riccall more festive and help Riccall Parish Council to extend the Christmas lights. Let us know what you think. Look on the village notice board and in local shops nearer the time for further information.





# Community Notice Board.....

## Riccall Community Archive

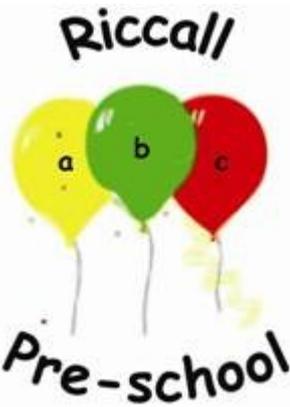
After a disappointing attendance at our Carnival exhibits, we were compensated by receiving more village pictures-past and present, to add to a growing collection held for anybody to see at the Regen Centre Archive (open on the first Tuesday each month or by arrangement).

**Look out for our local publicity** in the coming months as we plan some free short evening talks **about our local history** by the Archive team, to be held at the Regen Centre.

These talks are specifically aimed at interesting village newcomers and are a chance for you to question and contribute to our local knowledge as well as learning the fascinating facts about our country village, following our theme-**“Hidden Riccall!”**

Contact **Katy on 248813 or Paddy on 249201 to book a place**

WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL?



Thanks to the hard work of the staff and the committee, an ambitious plan to own their own building came to fruition, and Riccall Pre-school's new building was officially opened on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 by Martyn Hill.

Martyn, accepted the invitation to do the honours and cut the ribbon. Since he retired, he became involved in pre-school as a volunteer. Since then he has assisted for three mornings a week, and whenever else needed!

Cake, lots of balloons and Boxo the Clown to entertain children and adults alike made it a day to remember.

Riccall Pre-school also welcomed many other special guests, including county councillor, Liz Casling and Julia Evans, the Principal Adviser for the 0-11 Learners Quality and Improvement Service for North Yorkshire County Council.

**Riccall Pre-school worked closely with Futurebuilders England to turn their dreams into reality** which resulted in an investment of £160k, (£100k loan, £60k grant) to support the purchase of new premises on the primary school site.

Tracey McWilliam, Riccall Pre-school's Manager, said "Having our very own building has already allowed us to really expand and build on certain areas and themes for the children. We've also worked even more closely with the foundation stage teacher at Riccall Primary School, making the transition to 'big school' for children as seamless as possible and so much easier."



**From September sessions available: Mon-Fri 9am—3pm**  
**Plus Breakfast Club & Lunch Club - Morning & Afternoon sessions**

**15hrs of Nursery Grant Funding available once your child is 3yrs old.**





# Community Notice Board.....

## Riccall Regen Centre - still serving the community after 10 years..



It is 10 years this autumn since Riccall Regen Centre was officially opened by HRH The Duke Of York. We continue to offer a range of facilities to suit all our community's needs. Our licensed bar has an intimate atmosphere suitable for parties of up to 50, including dancing space! The Riverside Room is par-

ticularly suitable for children's parties and can easily take 100 people. The main Outhwaite Hall comfortably holds 200 people, and with our 'Big Top' internal marquee in place, offers a luxury setting for wedding receptions, dances, parties, presentation events, etc. at a cost you can afford. Catering and bar facilities can

be provided for any event. Please telephone 01757 248849, or visit our website [www.riccall.co.uk](http://www.riccall.co.uk), for more details, and to see how our main hall looks when converted to a marquee. *You'll be amazed!*



WHAT'S GOING ON IN RICCALL?

## Windmill Nursery



Riccall Regen's Windmill Nursery is your local nursery. We are Ofsted 'GOOD' in all areas inspected. We cater for children aged from 3 months to 5 years in a large, bright and colourful environment. All our staff are highly qualified, experienced and caring. As well as long and medium term places, Windmill Nursery is able to offer short term places for a couple of hours, half a day or the odd day here and there. Please telephone Christine, our Nursery Manager, on 01757 249527 to see what is available. Prices include food and nappies, and are very competitive for this area. Come along and visit your local nursery. We shall be pleased to see you!

## Riccall Art Club - enjoy themed evenings in the Autumn



Riccall Art Club meets every Wednesday evening from 7pm to 9pm at the Methodist Church.

evening a month where we have a visiting artist or a "special" evening.

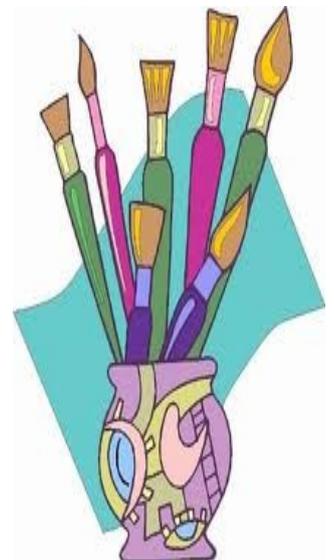
We very much enjoyed a talk and slide show from Selby artist Martin Pearson on Wednesday 8th September.

On Saturday 6th November from 10am to 4pm we have a paint-a-long with Charles Kelly.

Learn new techniques in watercolour. (you will need to bring a sandwich for lunch- tea and coffee provided).

For more information about the group and about what we have planned for the

future - telephone Tessa on 248861.



We are a very friendly group and paint in all mediums. We would particularly welcome new members.

We try to have at least one



## Riccall Tennis Club

Membership has increased this year which includes adults and juniors with coaching available for all on a Wednesday. On Sunday 19th September 2010 the club hosted the annual tournament throughout the day for children and adults. This was organised by the LTA coach Matt Ward and full details are always available on the website.



We are hoping to have the courts repainted ready for next season and there will be an open day in the early Spring of 2011 to celebrate this (further details in the next Beacon ). The men's team has gained promotion in the Tyke Petroleum Tennis league after only three seasons; an excellent achievement ! Both mixed teams and the ladies team have had good seasons and have consolidated their positions in the relevant leagues.



Obviously we are always looking for more members and again, all details of how to join can be found on the website [www.riccalltennisclub.co.uk](http://www.riccalltennisclub.co.uk)

The club is a great facility for the village and its surrounding area with everyone welcome, whether it be for a social knockabout, to learn the game through the coach Matt Ward, or to get involved in matches in the local league. Whatever suits you, with no pressure !

Chairman, John Lintott.



## Party in the Park (well kind of....)

The Council in partnership with Riccall Recreation Development Group ran a 'Party in the Park' event just before the summer to celebrate the 1st birthday of the new Pre-School area at Riccall Park. The event was possible thanks to a 'sustainability' grant from Community Spaces. Children from Riccall Pre-School, Windmill Nursery and Riccall Tot-Stop were invited to the event, which included refreshments, a visit from Boxo the Clown and each child receiving a 'Riccall Park' baseball cap.



The event went well with the exception of the British weather (thunder and showers), which meant that it was preferable to watch the clown within the safety of the new Pre-School building on the Riccall School site! A big thank you to Community Spaces for the funding.



## Farm shop for Riccall?

Plans are about to be submitted for a farm shop on the outskirts of Riccall (at the entrance to the Hollicarrs holiday park). The Council viewed some early plans recently and we'll let you know how the application progresses.



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## Some news and updates from around the District.....



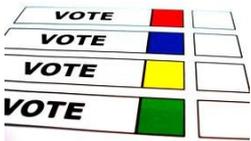
### **EASTERN AREA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM**

The Eastern CEF has swung into action to tackle anti-social behaviour in Barlby. An array of measures have been introduced including letters to residents, one eviction, a tree planting programme, plans to replace fencing, a new bin, new 'no alcohol' signs, increased police patrols and regular meetings with residents. The meeting has also considered winter maintenance issues, youth projects and other issues relevant to this area of the Selby District. For future dates, check out the events section of the Riccall PC website [www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.riccallparishcouncil.org.uk).



### **Call to return electoral registration forms**

A plea from Selby DC for people to return their electoral registration canvass forms, as the authority has recorded the highest ever number of non-returns. The Council has a legal duty to collect this information, so now faces the significant task of re-writing to all those who have not returned their forms and if this fails going to visit properties in person. Anyone who has not completed their details but no longer has their form should contact Selby DC's electoral services department on (01757) 292006. Alternatively, log onto [www.aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk) to download a form.



### **Warning over Council Tax Fraud**

Selby DC is warning of fraudsters targeting local Council Tax payers. The bogus callers usually make contact by telephone and claim they are processing a refund of Council Tax or can help to reduce the Council Tax band and then ask for confidential bank details. This is part of a nationwide fraud that the Council wants to alert residents to. Selby DC would never call people in this way and ask for private bank details so if you get a call like this—it is definitely not genuine. If you need to verify the identity of anyone in the Council—contact (01757) 705101.



### **The 2011 Census is coming**

The census has collected information about the population every ten years since 1801 (except in 1941). The next census in England and Wales is on March 27th 2011. It tells us how many people live where and the types of people they are. This means decisions like working out who needs facilities in the future are focused on accurate, relevant details. The department of Communities and Local Government and the Department of Health allocate money to local and health authorities. Census statistics feed into that process—that's why you need to be counted to make sure that your community is properly represented in the decision making process. You need to complete the Census form so that the services and facilities your community / family uses can be identified. These services include schools, hospitals and emergency services. **2011 Census—Help Tomorrow Take Shape**



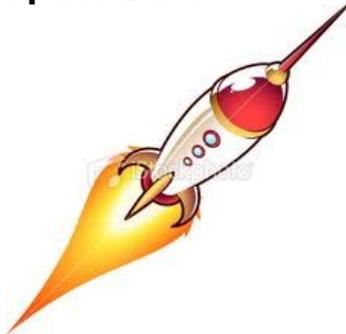


**Riccall Badminton Club** is a small, friendly club that meets on Tuesday evenings at the Regen Centre. We play "social" badminton to an average standard, doubles and mixed doubles. We currently have spaces for new players and would like to encourage people from the village/local area (especially ladies) who have played badminton before (perhaps some time ago!) to come and meet us with a view to joining the club.

If you are interested please contact:

Keith or Lynn Tel - 01757 248268

## Space Base



We had another great summer filled with fun activities. As well as the old favourites like visiting the Millennium Green and Riccall Park, Clay Modelling and Box Modelling, we had fun with water on the 'Wet and Wacky Sports day', became Greek on the 'Toga day', made dream catchers on the 'Native American day' and learned about India on the 'Saris and Spices day'. The sunny days were all the better because of the new outdoor equipment purchased from funding by NYCC. Some produce that we had grown in the garden area found its way into 'Cook Your Own Lunch' day.



We had a fabulous visit from Pets at Home - several children are pestering their parents to let them have a Guinea Pig! We are also really grateful for funding from Riccall Parish Council to purchase more much needed indoor equipment to entertain us over the winter months.

Sadly we said 'Goodbye' to Kaitlin Hoy as she is working more hours at Riccall School now. Beverley Gray has joined us and is already fitting in very well to our friendly team.



As always we would like to remind you that Space Base offers high quality affordable childcare for children of school age. We open 7.30 am in term time to take children to school and open after school till 6pm and from 8 am - 6pm in school holidays. We welcome children for as little or as long as you need us, occasionally or on a regular basis.

Please give us a call on 01757 249669 or come along to The Regen Centre to meet us.



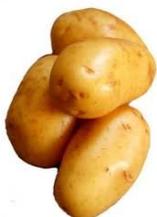
## Field Garden Allotments

These plots in three fields around the village are now occupied by 80 tenants but there will be a few vacancies of small gardens in the next few months for people keen to grow their own vegetables and flowers.

Plot rent is only £15 a year with a £5 discount if you are receiving a state pension and you will soon get this back in savings by growing your own produce. We are associate members of the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners and for an indi-

vidual **member subscription of £2** (free when ordering each year) you can get seeds, plants & garden sundries at a fraction of the rising price in shops.

If you are interested in a garden contact **Brian Keen, Gardens Co-ordinator on 249403.**



## Riccall Show 2010



This year's show was a huge success, 67 villagers entered into the spirit with their baking, handicrafts, home grown vegetables and flowers. Overall there were 303 exhibits - well done to everyone who participated!

Trophy winners:

Outhwaite Challenge Cup - (Best in Show) Maureen Robinson  
 Sinclair Cup (best vegetable) John Townsend  
 Vegetable Shield (most points) John Townsend  
 Founders Cup (most entries) Karen Keen  
 Big Shield (best entry - flowers) Hazel Shaw  
 Flower Shield (most points) Malcolm Webster  
 Rose Bowl (best in baking) Richard Moody  
 Harry & Joan Smith Cup (most points in baking) Judi Binns  
 Harrison Shield Most (entries in baking) Judi Binns  
 Douglas Scott Tray (best handicraft) Maureen Robinson  
 Small Shield (most points in handicraft) Maureen Robinson.

### Children's

Sargison Trophy (most points) Lauren Noble  
 Jack & Peggy Russell Cup (best entry) Miss Leaf  
 Sunday School Trophy (best in baking) Ben Sibley

We would like to thank the Regen Centre for the use of the hall, the judges for their time and our helpers on the day ...we couldn't have done it without them !

Jan Coverdale & Richard Pratt



## Recipe Corner - Spiced Apple Christmas Muffins



### Directions:

Pre-heat the oven to 350F (180C, Gas Mark 4), and lightly grease a muffin pan. In a large bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder,

salt, cinnamon and nutmeg. Mix in the brown sugar.

In a separate bowl, combine the eggs, milk and butter. Mix well. Add the egg mixture to the flour mixture and stir in (do not over mix). Fold in the apples and walnuts (if using).

Spoon the batter into the muffin pan.

Bake for approximately 20 minutes or until golden and baked through. Let the muffins cool in the pan for 5 minutes before removing to wire rack to cool completely.

### Ingredients:

2 cups all purpose flour  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1 tablespoon baking powder  
 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg  
 2/3 cup brown sugar  
 2 eggs (beaten)  
 2/3 cup milk  
 1/4 cup butter (melted)  
 1 cup peeled and grated/shredded apple  
 1/4 cup chopped walnuts



## The International Year of Biodiversity



### *What has this to do with us in Riccall you might ask?*

Rather more than you might think! Would you want to pay £2 for one apple or £10 for a punnet of Strawberries or Raspberries with vast increases in many food costs? This could be the reality if we fail to keep alive our naturally free pollinating insects, bees and birds by destroying their habitats leaving us to pollinate flowering trees, crops and plants by hand or expensive artificial means.



The world depends on us –living here and now-to do something about it. Countering global warming by reducing the rising levels of carbon dioxide in the air we breathe means encouraging wild creatures (*many vital pollinators of our food crops*) by growing green plants that store carbon dioxide as well as feeding and protecting our wildlife.



We could use more environment friendly transport; reduce our burning of fossil fuels by better house insulation and lots of other personal actions but we can most easily help by having a more bio-diverse garden; growing vegetables organically (no artificial chemicals) or planting small areas of wild flowers or leaving the lawn grass to grow a little longer or plant more trees and shrubs. It might look less neat and tidy but the compensation is that wild creatures welcome it and the plants soak up poisonous carbon dioxide.



In Riccall the meadow, tree and shrub areas developed in Northfield are our bio-diverse efforts to compensate for the disappearing rain forests worldwide. The grass verges and hedges around our recreation grounds absorb carbon dioxide and provide a vital home for many species of insects, birds and mammals. These areas will be retained but many more are needed in our gardens and allotments if we are to do our part in helping to reduce the rising amount of carbon dioxide in our air. We hoped to introduce honey bees to a Field Garden allotment but were unable to get a starter swarm. The hives will wait until 2011. We make no apologies for supporting world bio-diversity year and you can help our future in partnership with the Trustees and volunteers who collectively are **Riccall Lands Charity**.



*It is the variety in nature that gives us life*

### **Traffic tolerance within Riccall would be great! Any chance??**

There are a couple of areas within the village that we are getting lots of complaints about. Can we please take this opportunity to ask for your co-operation?



The first is **Coppergate**; and yes we do know that this is a problem that is not easy to solve! The road leads to school, is narrow and was never built for the amount of traffic that it now enjoys (or doesn't enjoy as the case may be!). Residents on Coppergate, parents walking with their children to school and others complain to us about the amount of unnecessary traffic that uses the road, mounting the pavement to get past other traffic, blocking residential access and occasionally bringing this narrow road to a standstill. Can we appeal to those of you that can walk your children to school and pre-school to help the Community by doing just that?



If you do need to drive so that you can shoot off to work or wherever, we totally understand that but perhaps you could park a couple of minutes away, somewhere less congested and walk the last bit? The Hare and Hounds pub has very kindly offered their car park for use during school drop off and pick up times—please do take advantage.

Secondly, the area opposite the Post Office is becoming a problem with motorists parking right up to the junction of **Chapel Lane**. This really reduces visibility for those residents trying to exit Chapel Lane. Please do not park within 10 meters of a junction. We really don't want to moan about these things or to continually request further traffic calming measures—please can we all work together to sort these Community problems out? **Thank you very much.**

