

# ROMSLEY NEWS

Your Update from Romsley Parish Council

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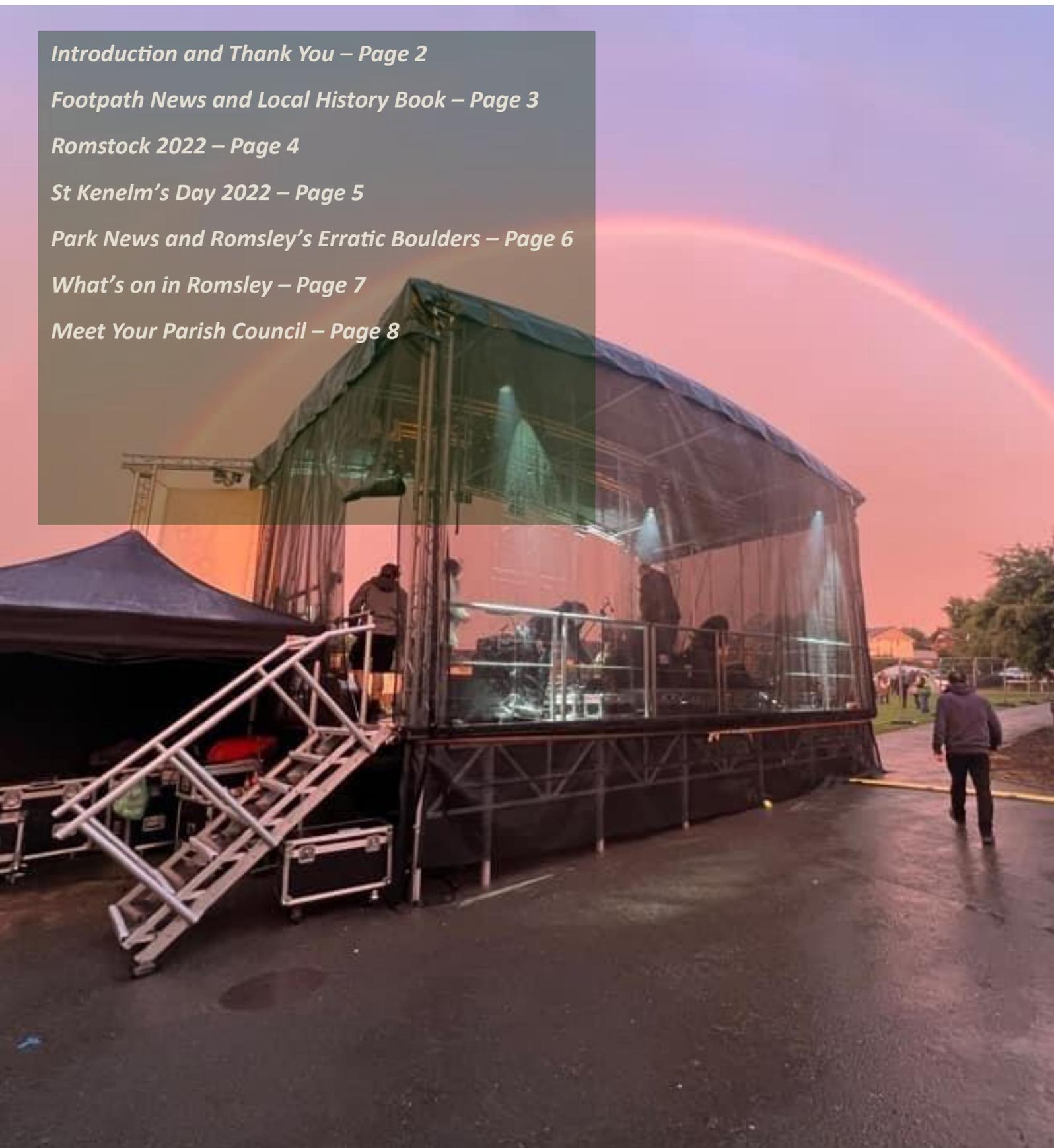
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# Introduction and Update

## Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

1926 – 2022

Romsley Parish Council is deeply saddened at the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

We share the grief of the Nation and the World and offer our sincere condolences to the Royal Family.

Her Majesty's legacy will be long lasting and her loss profoundly felt.

Since our last Newsletter, the Parish Council have organised two large events, Romstock and St Kenelm's Day. It was the first Romstock since 2019 and we made some necessary changes, in the light of experience, to run the event safely and to retain a family friendly focus. The weather could have been better but those who came along were prepared for the worst! Teaming up with Social Eats meant that the Parish Council could concentrate on the music side of the event which turned out to be the best yet. While keeping ticket prices the same as 2019, we still made a profit which went towards financing St Kenelm's Day. The weather could not have been more kind. Residents brought picnics and basked in the sunshine while listening to some wonderful music. The evening was brought to a close with a fantastic fireworks display.

We would like to welcome Lois Swift as a new member to Romsley Parish Council.

I have lived in Romsley for around 25 years. My husband and I brought up our two children in Romsley, now we encourage our grandchildren to visit and enjoy the beautiful countryside. We look after seven pet alpacas and welcome visits from local schools, ramblers and community groups. I am a keen walker and enjoy a daily jaunt up the Waseley Hills with my whippets.

Before taking early retirement I worked in the NHS for over 30 years as a midwife, health visitor, specialist cancer nurse and eventually Associate Director of Public Health in Sandwell. I maintain an interest in women's issues, mental health and child care.



Sending our Best Regards

**Romsley Parish Council**

# Thank You

To the Coop for continuing to support the local community

To Liam Parry and dad for litter picking as part of the D of E Bronze Award

To residents who go litter picking

To residents who help to keep the flower planters around the village looking beautiful

To residents who keep the footpath in front of their property swept and clear of overgrown foliage

To residents who 'keep an eye' on elderly neighbours

To residents who clean up after their dogs around the village and in the park

To residents who report issues around the village to Parish, District or County Council for the common good

To people who give their time to run activity and interest groups in the village

# Footpath News – Stuart Smith Paths Warden

Following the temporary suspension of parish walks over the past two years due to Covid restrictions I'm happy to say that they resumed this year and have been held on five occasions throughout the year between New Year and September. These walks have been well supported and enjoyed by around 100 both local and not so local enthusiastic walkers many of whom have supported the walks regularly since their inception in 2012 and who have become good friends, helping to make the walks so enjoyable.



Here are the provisional dates and meeting place for next years parish walks which all start off at 10am. In case of unforeseen circumstances please check the Parish Council website for any changes.

**January 7th New Year walk Nimmings car park**

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> Rumbow Cottages walk Recreation car park**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Wild Garlic walk The Sun**

**June 17<sup>th</sup> Orchid walk The Sun**

**July 22<sup>nd</sup> Out of Parish walk Lickey Beacon car park**

**September 16<sup>th</sup> Hunnington walk Recreation ground car park**

Anyone wishing to be included in an email list and receive emails relating to details of Parish walks and footpath information is welcome to contact me on [stuninasmith@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stuninasmith@yahoo.co.uk)

## Local History Book

### GROWING UP IN BLUE BIRD'S GARDEN VILLAGE

by  
Margaret Harding (née Cowling)  
and Valerie Mills (née Hastilow)



*Blue Bird Toffee Factory in Hunnington*



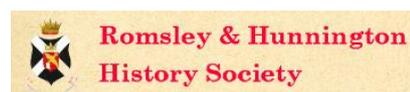
**Advertisement on behalf of the authors**

Romsley & Hunnington History Society  
has recently published the new book.

Packed with photographs, it includes the memories of two ladies who grew up in the Blue Bird Garden Village and surrounding areas, along with many historical facts relating to Hunnington's world-renowned toffee factory.

As the site is likely to be developed in the near future, we hope that this book will help to keep memories of the factory's former glory alive.

For further information, or to purchase a book (£15), contact **Ruth Harper** by email on [rhsociety@gmail.com](mailto:rhsociety@gmail.com)



# Romstock 2022



Rather than write a review of Romstock from the point of view of the Parish Council, I think that this Facebook post sums up the rationale and motives for staging the event as we did –

*Hi, I just wanted to send a message of thanks to all of the amazing people who organised this year's Romstock, thank you so much!*

*It may have rained non-stop but this year was definitely our favourite Romstock so far, and we've been to a few! The changes you made this year were fantastic for families - especially the lack of gazebos. We have two young children and it was always so stressful keeping track of them in a sea of gazebos, with ropes everywhere for them to trip on. Having a much more open field meant we could relax and let them have a bit more freedom while we could still see them clearly. It also meant people mixed a lot more rather than sitting in their own gazebo with just a few friends/family, and it forced all of us to get out and dance rather than be tempted to sit under a shelter - which meant we had a brilliant time and didn't get too cold 😊*

*No alcohol brought in was also a good change in our opinion. Everyone was still merry but it was nowhere near as raucous as it gets some years, which to be honest used to be a bit intimidating for those of us with little ones.*

*I know lots of parents felt the same way about this year's event and would love these changes to be permanent for future Romstocks.*

*Thank you for giving us a brilliant day, and for reminding me how much I love Robbie Williams 😊*

**THANK YOU** to the Coop for providing water for everyone.

**THANK YOU** to Emma Pickford-Perry and the Scouts for running the car park.

**THANK YOU** to Julie Dunham for making it possible for us to provide a car park.



# St Kenelm's Day 2022

## St Kenelm's Day

We held our St Kenelm's Day celebration at Romsley Park on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July.

The concert started with songs performed by a group of pupils from St Kenelm's Primary School. This was a wonderful opening to a very enjoyable evening.



Next came the Stourport-upon-Severn Brass Band, who entertained us with a variety of foot-stomping, pensive, rousing and sing-along music, featuring some very talented soloists. Not to mention, the special appearance during the 'Teddy Bears' Pic-nic!' Something for everyone!



Sandwiched between the two sets played by the brass band, were the ever-popular, 'The Bluebird Belles.' Wonderful vocal harmony and an all-round 'class act!' We were treated to a range of songs from the 20's right up to original arrangements of modern favourites. Their song selection had us all clapping along, singing and dancing.



For the first time, we were treated to The Bluebird Belles and Stourport Brass Band collaborating on .... Those present added their contribution by way of flag waving and hooter sounding. We were all suitably equipped for this thanks to the sharing out of Union flags and hooters by the Parish Council.



The evening ended with a fabulous fireworks display.



# Park News

The Parish Council have received very favourable comments about changes already made to the park. The display of wild flowers on the bank brought pleasure to everyone visiting the park. Managing wild flower areas takes a lot of work, planning and management to be effective. The next stage of development will be the planting of trees and bulbs this September and October.



## Birmingham's Erratic Boulders – Heritage of the Ice Age

We have partnered with a National Lottery Heritage Fund project to raise public awareness of erratic boulders in our area. A glacial erratic is glacially deposited rock that is different to native rock to the area in which it rests. Erratics, which take their name from the Latin word *errare* (to wander), are carried by glacial ice, often over distances of hundreds of kilometres. Erratics can range in size from pebbles to large boulders.

Birmingham's Erratics will be served by 5 walking and 2 cycling routes. Romsley Hill is a site of historic importance, as famous geologists in the late 19th century visited it and discovered ice age deposits on the top of the hill and nearby Frankley Hill.



On Friday 25th February 2022, we met with the project team and agreed to erect an interpretation board on the green, as this site will be included in one of the proposed cycling routes.

The photograph on the left is from an article written in 1902. Does anyone know where it is now?

If you are interested in getting involved in the project or have any information, please visit

<https://erraticsproject.org/> or contact Val Turner  
Valerie.turner2@worc.ac.uk



ARENIG BOULDER ON ROMSLEY HILL

# What's On in Romsley

## ROMSLEY SCOUT CENTRE

- **Beaver Scouts** [ 6 - 8 years ] - Monday 6pm
- **Cub Scouts** [ 8 - 10 years ] - Tuesday 7pm
- **Scouts** [ 10 - 15 years ] - Friday 7.30 pm

**Contact : [romsleyscouts@hotmail.com](mailto:romsleyscouts@hotmail.com) or 07970 744417**

- **Toddler & Parent Dance Classes** –  
Tuesdays 9.30 - 10.15am

**Contact : [Jayne@timminsacademy.com](mailto:Jayne@timminsacademy.com) or 07985 734294**

- **Translucent Dance Studio** [ Dance sessions for 4 - 11 year olds ] - Every Wednesday from 4pm

**Contact : [www.translucentdancestudio.co.uk](http://www.translucentdancestudio.co.uk) - 07311 307077**

- **Romsley Art Group** - Tuesday 12 noon

**Contact : Jean Cockin – [jeanmcockin1@gmail.com](mailto:jeanmcockin1@gmail.com)**

- **Rainbows** [ 5 - 7 years ] - Thursdays
- **Guides** [ 10 - 14 years ] - Wednesdays

**Contact : Debbie Carter - 01562 710329**

- **Stay and Play** – Monday 9.30 – 11.00

**Contact – Laura - 07525476339**

- **Baby Ballet** – Monday – 1.00pm

**Contact Emma – 07968700181**

- **Toddler and Parent Ballet and Dance**

**Contact – Jayne – 07985734294**

- **Me Time Fitness** (Mum and little one) Thursday 9.30am

**Contact Rachel Cunningham – 07491222554**

- **Moo Music** (Making fun music and movement – Thursday 1.15pm

**Contact – Angela – 07852234440**

- **Move More**

Thursday at 12.45pm – no need to book

## ROMSLEY CHURCH HALL

- **Brownies** [ 7 - 10 years ] - Thursdays

**Contact : Debbie Carter - 01562 710329**

- **Romsley Toddlers Group** - Wednesdays 10 am [ Term Time ]

**Contact : Kelly Marie – 07460062162**

- **Worship4All** - 1st Sunday of every month at 4 pm  
Family friendly service and craft making

**Contact Selina Tromans on 0121 550 8577**

- **Sensory People** (Care and Therapy for young people  
Every weekday afternoon, except Monday

**Contact – Marion - 07879431371**

- **History Society** - 4th Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm

**Contact – Paul Share – 01562 710197**

- **Hillside Ladies** - 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm

**Contact – Sue Holloway – 01562 710414**

- **Tea and Cake Afternoon** - Mondays 2.00 - 3.30 pm  
Fortnightly from 19<sup>th</sup> April

**Contact – Selina Tromans – 0121 550 8577**

- **Ballroom Dancing** - Thursday – 8.30pm

**Contact – Richard Finlow – 07914119052**

## OTHER VENUES

- **Mobile Library Service**

First Tuesday of every month.

11.05 – 11.20 – Yew Tree Place

11.25 – 11.40 – Dark Lane

11.45 – 12.05 – Hillcrest Road

- **Sidemoor Mobile Chip Van** - Every Friday in the playing field car park 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

- **Fitness Bootcamp for all** – Tuesday 7.00am, Wednesday 6.30pm, Friday – 9.30am on the playing field

**Contact – Jordan - 07971332777**

# Meet your Parish Council

## Shaun Bolar — Chairman

Shaun Lives in Dark Lane. He is a Cost Consultant and Project Manager, working within the construction industry.



## Lesley Gray — Vice Chairman

Lesley lives in Dark Lane. She is a retired teacher and spent most of her career in a school for children with special educational needs.



## Jack Strain — Councillor

Jack is currently a university student studying computing and lives towards Dayhouse Bank.



## John Shaw — Councillor

John lives on Dayhouse Bank. He is a retired Automotive engineer and the facilities director at Stourbridge RFC.



## John Weston — Councillor

John lives in Winston Drive and is a retired Business Development Manager having worked locally for many years.



## Ray Carr — Councillor

Ray is a semi-retired financial adviser and lives in The Hedgerows.



## Lois Swift — Councillor

Lois has live at Dayhouse Bank for 25 years. She finished her career with the NHS as Ass. Dir. of Public Health, Sandwell.



## Contact the Parish Council

Ruth Mullett - Clerk to the Council

Address: 167 Bromsgrove Rd, Hunnington, West Midlands. B62

OJU Tel: 07970 976915

Email: [clerk@romsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@romsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Ed Sheppard — Lengthsman

Ed is our Lengthsman responsible for highway tasks and clearance / drainage



## Nigel Williamson — Maintenance

Nigel lives in Dark Lane and is responsible for maintenance activities across our Parish.



## Ruth Mullett — Parish Clerk

Ruth lives in Hunnington and brings a wealth of experience and local knowledge serving as Parish Clerk for Romsley and Hunnington

