

ROMSLEY NEWS

Your Update from Romsley Parish Council

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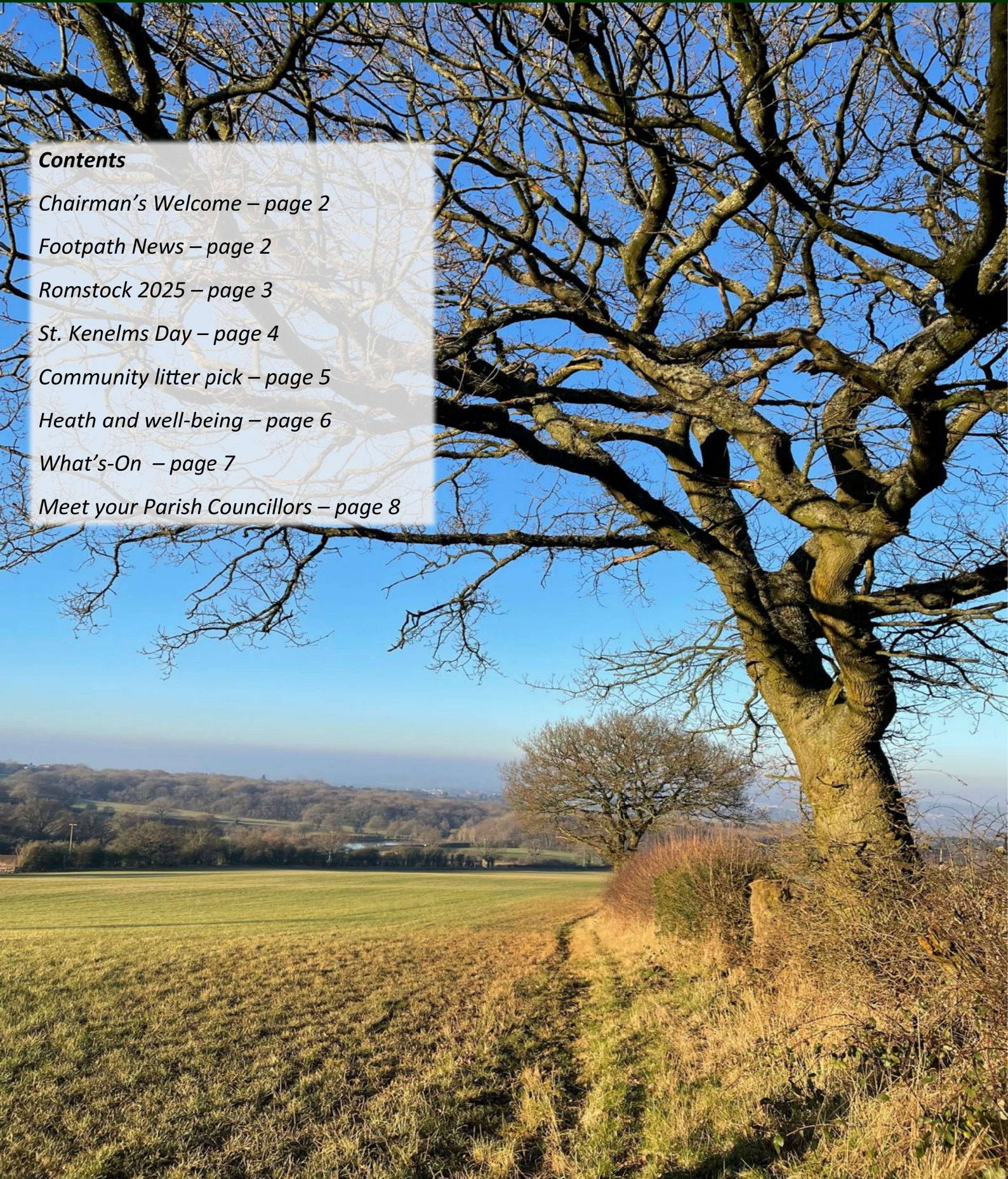
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Chairman's Welcome

Welcome to the latest newsletter from your Parish Council and with it some warmer weather (at least at the time of writing).

Firstly, a big thank you to Debbie Carter for providing us with the beautiful picture used on the front cover; it really does highlight the wonderful area we live in. If there are other photographers out there who have interesting photographs from around the parish we'd love to hear from you.

A lot to report on in this newsletter starting with our two annual events, Romstock music festival and St. Kenelms Day celebrations, which will soon be upon us and with organisation nearing completion.

The proceeds from Romstock ticket sales help us to finance other activities including the free St. Kenelms Day celebrations and other maintenance activities around the parish. Sales have been excellent in the early weeks and discounted tickets are still available (again at the time of writing).

See page 3 and 4 for further details including a reminder (or possibly an introduction) to the history of St. Kenelms Day. Although no report in this edition from our Parish Paths Warden Stuart Smith you will find a comprehensive list of interesting guided walks for the rest of the year below.

On Sunday 23rd March the parish council organised a litter pick which had great support and collected a huge amount of litter. See page 5 for more details and pictures. A great job done by all, thank you!

Also included is an article aimed at health and well-being with focus in this newsletter on a local running club for women. See page 6 for more details.

Finally, an updated list of "What's-On" activities are shown on page 7 including a promotion of the Scouts Village Fayre and BBQ on July 4th and volunteer opportunities with Romsley Rainbows and Guides.

I hope you find the newsletter interesting and welcome any feedback you may have on its content.

Regards
John Weston
Chairman

Footpath News – Stuart Smith, Paths Warden

Hello everyone

Here is a list of Parish Walks for this year, I hope you can join us on some or all and look forward to seeing you. All walks take place on Saturdays, are circular and leave at 10am

APRIL 12th

**A hills, meadows and wood walk 3.25miles.
Meet at recreation car park St Kenelms Road**

MAY 17th

**An alternative Garlic Walk 3.75 miles.
Meet at recreation car park St Kenelms Road**

JUNE 14th

**Orchids and local farms Walk 4 miles
Meet at the Sun Bromsgrove Road**

JULY 26th

**A Walk in the Park 3 miles or 5.25 miles
Meet at Leasowes Car Park off Mucklows Hill**

SEPTEMBER 6th

**Almost to Halesowen and back
Meet at recreation car park St Kenelms Road**

NOVEMBER 8th

**Wychbury Hill 4.25 miles
Meet at Nimmings NT car park**

Stuart Smith, Parish Paths Warden
E-mail: stuninasmith@yahoo.co.uk

Romstock 2025

Following the huge success of last years event plans are well underway for our annual music festival, Romstock, which will be held at the playing fields on **Saturday 28th June**.

Get ready for a full day of incredible live music, amazing food, childrens rides and family fun.
Bands are confirmed and what a fantastic line-up we have catering for different musical tastes.

Tickets are available (including early bird tickets) at <https://skiddle.com/e/40607908>

As always, ticket monies raised goes directly back to the parish council to fund other activities and events including the St.Kenelms Day celebrations (which again will be provided free of charge).

Save the date: Romstock 2025 - 28th June!!!!

A vibrant poster for the Romstock Music Festival. The background is a warm orange and yellow gradient with silhouettes of people dancing and musical notes. The title 'Romstock Music Festival' is in a large, stylized white font with black outlines. Below it, a red banner with white text reads 'LIVE MUSIC • STREET FOOD • FAMILY FRIENDLY'. The date 'SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2025' is in large, bold, blue-outlined white letters, with the time '12PM - 9.30PM' below it. The lineup of bands is listed in various fonts and colors: ERASURED • Strictly ABBA, Surf's Up – Beach Boys • The SKAstuds, Neil Diamond - By Wayne Denton • SUPERNOVA, The Fortunate Sons • STELLA. At the bottom, there are two logos: 'Romsley Parish Council' and 'SOCIAL EATS'.

St. Kenelms Day

Plans are well underway for our annual St. Kenelms Day celebrations which will be held at the playing fields on **Saturday 19th July.**

The full line-up is still to be confirmed but we are pleased to announce that the ever popular Stourport Brass Band will be entertaining us once again and the evening will conclude with a fantastic fireworks display.

For those that may not be so familiar here's a little background to the celebrations...

Romsley's rich history stretches back many centuries and one of the most interesting events surrounds the assassination of Mercian King Kenelm near the church at the start of the 8th century. There was much uncertainty over the events of his death as well as his true age at the time. However, following his death he was quickly canonised as a Saint who was venerated in Anglo-Saxon and Medieval England and mentioned in Chaucers "Canterbury Tales".

St. Kenelms Feast Day is traditionally celebrated on the 17th July.

King Kenelm is an important part of our community's history and unique to Romsley. For centuries the parish has come together in July to celebrate these events including the church's annual festival and the parish council aims to ensure that these traditions are strengthened and continue.

As such we invite all residents and their families to the St. Kenelms Day celebrations which includes musical entertainment, a good sing song and finished off with an excellent firework display.

This is a free event to which you are invited to bring along your picnic hamper, a drink and table and chairs – we hope you and your families will join us.

Save the date: St. Kenelms Day - 19th July!!!!

Gates open 6pm, entertainment from 7pm and finishing at 10pm with fireworks display.



Community litter pick

On Sunday 23rd March a Community litter pick was organised by the Parish Council with focus this time on Putney Lane due to an increase of litter and fly-tipping in the area. Despite the damp and foggy morning more than a dozen enthusiastic pickers descended on the lane to set about the task in hand. The results were unbelievable with the council van that had been organised to pick up the waste bags being completely full by the time we had finished.

A big thank you to everyone involved, your support is much appreciated.

The Parish Council will look to organise another litter pick around the village later in the year.



Dog Walkers

Following a request in the last Newsletter and social media posts by residents it appears there continues to be a minority who do not feel it is their responsibility to clean up their dogs mess.

Again, a polite request to remind all dog walkers of their responsibility to clean up any mess and that it is an offence not to do so.

Could we also remind owners that the same responsibilities for cleaning up after your dog extends to all areas of the park, grass areas and all the countryside footpaths.

To help keep the area clean and safe dog mess bags are available for when walkers have forgotten or used up any bags they may have taken out with them.

Please clean up YOUR mess!!!!

Health & Well-being

Over the coming months the Parish Council will be exploring activities and events aimed at supporting residents health and well-being.

The following article introduces a running club, based in Hagley, that was formed to support women...

I'm Sarah, the founder of RunClub, who in February 2024 started to help three friends with their running. I had one simple goal, to create a safe and supportive space for women to thrive. From that small beginning our all-female RunClub has grown to nearly 300 strong, inspiring women, each with their own story, their own goals, and their own reasons for lacing up their running shoes. But this club is about so much more than just running.

A Safe Space for Women

We know that running can feel intimidating, especially for women. Whether it's concerns about safety, a lack of confidence, or simply not knowing where to start, too many women hold themselves back. That's why we built RunClub, a space where every woman, no matter her background, experience or ability can feel welcome and supported. From complete beginners to seasoned marathon runners, we train for all abilities and all distances offering everything from Couch to 5 programs to marathon training and everything in between. It doesn't matter if you're starting fresh or chasing a personal best. What matters is that you're here.

More than running: A Community of Strength

Yes, we run, but we also hike, train, and push ourselves beyond our comfort zones together. Because this club isn't just about fitness; it's about friendships, mental health, and building confidence. It's about meeting new people, stepping outside your comfort zone, and realising you're capable of more than you ever thought possible. The physical benefits of running are undeniable, but what's even more powerful is the mental transformation. The discipline, commitment, and consistency that running teaches spill into every area of life. And when you have a group of women cheering you on, lifting you up, and pushing you forward, that's when the magic happens.

Join Us—You Belong Here

Whether you're looking to get fitter, make new friends, or simply challenge yourself in a supportive environment, there's a place for you here. This club is full of strong, inspiring women and we'd love for you to be part of it. So take that first step, because the hardest part is just starting. And once you do, you'll never look back. Are you ready? Let's run.

If you are interested you can contact me via email at:- sarah@runclub.run

Or go to our Instagram page : <https://www.instagram.com/runclub/profilecard/?igsh=dmJqZ3RlbGVsNHNs>

What's On in Romsley

Romsley Scout Centre

Romsley Scout Group – open to girls and boys

- **Beavers** (6 – 8 years) **Monday 6.00pm**
- **Cubs** (8 – 10 years) **Tuesday 7.00pm**
- **Scouts** (10 – 14 years) **Friday 7.30pm**

Contact: Romsleyscouts@hotmail.com
or 07970 744417

Romsley Rainbows (girls 5 – 7 years) **Thursday 4.45pm**

Contact: Debbie Carter 01562 710329

Romsley Guides (girls 10 – 14 years) **Wednesday**

Contact: Emma Pickford-Perry 07437 543383

Gentle Years Yoga **Monday 2.00pm**

Contact: Jane 07841 523962 or yogajane01@gmail.com

Story Rangers (2 to 5 year olds) **Tuesday 10.00am**

Contact: Jo 07816 493858 or jo@storyrangers.co.uk

Age UK – Move More Fitness **Thursday 12.45pm**

Contact: 01527 570490 or enquiries@ageukbrwf.org.uk

Romsley Art Group **Tuesday 12 Noon**

Contact: Jean Cockin 01562 710389 or
jeancockin1@gmail.com

Balance Yoga **Wednesday 1.00pm and 5.45pm**

Contact: Victoria 07399000043 or
balance.poweryoga@gmail.com

Me Time Fitness - New moms & babies **Thursday 10.00am**

Contact: Rachael 07491 222554 or
metimefitness@outlook.com

Woodgate Christadelphians **Sunday 10.15am**

Contact: www.woodgatechristadelphians.org

Church Hall

Tea and Cakes **Monday's 2pm - 3.30pm**

Romsley Parish Council meetings - 7pm

1st Tuesday of the month (excl. August and December)

Hunington Parish Council meetings - 7pm

Last Monday of each month



Make a note in your diary

VILLAGE FAYRE & BARBECUE

Friday 4th July

Romsley Scout Centre
Playing Field, St Kenelm's Road

7pm

Lots of Fun for Everyone

www.romsleyscouts.org.uk

Scouts Romsley St Kenelm's

Volunteers needed!

We help all girls know they can do anything!

Learn new skills
Meet new people
Make a difference

"Knowing I'm making a difference to girls is so rewarding!"

Jessica
Worcestershire
Leader

By volunteering you will help local Guiding to continue! You will give girls the chance to learn new skills and make wonderful memories for life!

1st Romsley Rainbows:
Thursdays 4.45-5.45 pm

1st Romsley Guides:
Wednesdays 7.15- 8.45 pm

Register today to find out some more!
www.Girlguiding.org.uk


Girlguiding
Worcestershire county

Meet your Parish Council

John Weston — Chair



I have been Parish Councillor since January 2022 having moved to the area at the beginning of 2021. In addition to the responsibilities of Chairman I took an active role in the play area redevelopment project and am a member of several working groups. I live on Winston Drive, am married with three grown up children and four grandchildren. In my spare time I enjoy playing golf, swimming and walking and have a keen interest in most sports, particularly football. I was a qualified football referee having officiated for 15 years in both adult and youth games reaching Senior County level.

Lois Swift — Vice Chair



I have lived in Romsley for over 25 years with my husband and pet alpacas. I am a keen walker and enjoy a jaunt up the Waseleys with my whippets. I know St. Kenelms Primary school well and currently serve as a Governor there, I'm also a Governor at Clent Parochial Primary School. As a performer with Romsley Pantomime Group I also act as their Treasurer. I love being part of the Romsley community and I am always keen to hear about issues of concern from residents. I believe we are privileged to live in such a beautiful location and I'm passionate to maintain it for future generations.

Ian Powell — Councillor



I moved to Romsley with my wife in 2016 and live on Dark Lane. I enjoy walking the local area and further afield, occasionally dropping in to the Swallows Nest on the way back. Over the years I have enjoyed Rugby Union both as a player and a spectator and enjoy watching most sports. I took early retirement from the railway in 2021 in my 38th year of service. I feel now is a good time for me to give something back by getting involved with the Parish Council.

John Shaw — Councillor



I moved to Romsley 2000. I am a retired Mechanical Cutting Tool engineer in the Automotive industry. I worked in various countries including UK/Sweden/Japan/Italy and China for three years. I played Rugby for many years and am now a Director at Stourbridge RFC. I am a member of National Trust, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and RSPB. Worked with Openreach/DCMS bringing Romsley Fibre to nearly 200 residential & business premises. I am the PC 'overseer' at Winwood Heath Allotments, maintaining close liaison with allotment holders.

Jack Strain — Councillor



Having lived in Romsley all my life, I am hoping to give back to the community and local area by being a parish councillor. I have previously worked on the Romsley Fibre project and I want to continue with projects like this and more to enable us to improve the village for everyone who lives here. Having a direct impact on issues that affect everyone in Romsley is incredibly rewarding.

Jim Macaulay — Councillor



I moved to the village in 2021. Looking forward to bringing up two young children in such a beautiful and friendly place and pleased and proud to be able to offer any assistance possible to improve the village for its residents.

Amber Antal — Councillor



I moved to Romsley in December 2011. I have 3 wonderful daughters that I feel are fortunate to have such a beautiful village to live in. I have worked at St. Kenelms school for around 7 years, love my job wholeheartedly and joined the parish council with a strong sense of togetherness. I hope to continue to work with the school, the church and the parish council so as to support the wonderful village in which we live. I hope that I can continue to contribute positively to our community & support all of our wonderful villagers.

Ed Shepherd — Lengthsman

Ed is our Lengthsman responsible for cleaning highway signage / clearance of obstructing vegetation / minor drainage.



Ruth Mullett — Parish Clerk

Ruth is a highly qualified Parish Clerk. She brings a wealth of experience and local knowledge serving Romsley and Hunnington Parish Councils.



**Ruth Mullett -
Clerk to the Council**
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