

Grants Policy

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that it has introduced a new Grants Policy under which it will be allocating funds to local organisations and community groups.

All applications will be considered at the September meeting of the Parish Council and must be received by 30 August 2010.

For more information concerning eligibility, and for an application form, please either consult the parish website. at www.scarning.info or write to the parish clerk at Oakleigh House, Shipdham lane, Scarning, NR19 2IB.

The Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 19th April. This meeting is an opportunity for parishioners to discuss parish affairs and to pass resolutions thereon (although it should be noted that such resolutions will not bind the Parish Council.) The meeting will also hear the annual report of the Chairman of the Parish Council, Alan Glister, as well as reports from representatives from village bodies such as the Village Hall Trust & Estate, the Playing Field Committee and Scarning Primary School. Full details can be found on the parish noticeboards or on the parish website, www.scarnin9.info

Community Rangers

Tired of the litter on our streets and in our countryside? Why not become a Breckland Community Ranger? All Community Rangers are issued with a litter picker, a pair of hard wearing gloves and a high visibility jacket. Why not do something to keep your neighbourhood clean? For more information, please call 656870.

New Benches and Tables

The Parish Council has installed two new picnic tables and benches on the Water Meadows play area. It has also installed two new picnic tables and benches in the garden at the back of the Village Hall.

The Great British Fish & Chips Supper

Want to raise money where you live and work? Want to eat fish and chips while raising money? Then why not hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 21 May to help raise awareness of the Spinal injuries Association.

Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live ans full and independent lives.

For more information or to request a fund raising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 08456786633 or email fishandchips@spinalco.uk

Notes from a famous School

Scarning School has produced many illustrious pupils, among them Edward Thurlow, who

went on to become King George III's Lord Chancellor, Edward Hase, who built Salle Park and Horatio Nelson's father, Edmund. To this list can be added Jacob Mountain, who in 1793 became the first Anglican Bishop of Quebec.

The grandson of French refugees, Mountain was born at Thwaite in Norfolk on 1 December 1749 and initially attended grammar school in Wymondham and Norwich. After working for two years in a counting house he entered Scarning School, which at that time was under the mastership of Robert Potter. (Potter's arrival in the village had been met by rioting outside the schoolhouse.)

In 1769, Jacob Mountain was admitted to Caius College, Cambridge. He graduated in 1777, having been ordained a deacon three years earlier. He married in 1783 and went on to father seven children, four of whom became clergymen. His first clerical posting was as perpetual curate of St Andrew's in Norwich, where he remained six years.

In the summer 1793, he was appointed Bishop of Quebec. He set foot in the city in November that year, accompanied by the 'Thirteen Mountains' or extended members of his family. At that time there were only nine Church of England clergymen in the whole of Canada and Quebec had no church or rectory. Mountain promoted the construction of churches in all the country's more populous towns, including a fine stone cathedral in Quebec and increased the number of clergymen to sixty, among them his son, George Jenoshaphat Mountain, who similarly went on to become Bishop of Quebec.

Jacob Mountain died on 16 June 1825 and buried four days later beneath the chancel of his cathedral.

The Foundations of Faith

The church in Scarning dates from the thirteenth century, but there was also an ancient chapel in the village known as St Botolph's. Records show that in 1210, William de Draiton, who lived at Drayton Hall, one of the village's three manor houses, presented the mediety (or share) of Seaming Church to the Abbey of Waltham Holy Cross in Essex. Shortly afterwards, the Abbey was assigned a piece of ~and in Seaming known as Sponesbrugge (later Spoon Bridge) and a meadow between the chapel of St Botolph and Sponesbergh.

An extract from the will of Walter Jenyor of Skerninge, (the village has for centuries been known by many different spellings) dated 22 June 1504, in which he left a small legacy toward the repair of 'Sainte Botulphe's Chapell', and a donation from William Pynchebeke 'to the gilde of our lady in Skernynge,' confirms the existence of this little known part of the village's history. There is also reference to an acre of land at 'Saint Buttolphes lane' in the Court Books of Scarning Hall (located near Hill Rise), while in his will Thomas Hoo left six shillings to 'the fratenite or gilde of Saynt Bothulph'.

And Finally...

What is the connection between Scarning and a wealthy nineteenth century ship owner to whom there was a public memorial in Wisbech? The answer lies in Richard Young, who was born in Scarning on 22 March 1809. The son of a farmer, Young was baptised two days later and whilst he moved from Scarning in his youth he went on to represent Wisbech as its Mayor and Member of Parliament. After his death in 1871 a column was erected to him in Wisbech Park.

