

# Stillington News

Issue 260

website: [www.stillingtonvillage.org](http://www.stillingtonvillage.org)

September 2016

## The Geese Return - Again



In early August many residents may have wondered why they were suddenly hearing or seeing so many geese. This picture illustrates the explanation, showing Stillington having its usual visit from the local Canada geese on August 9<sup>th</sup>, when even an occasional swan joined in. They commonly make the flight out of York at this time to glean the cornfields. This year between 100 and 150 birds were present in the late afternoon in the grain-field behind Parkfield, which had been harvested two weeks previously. With a taste for grain as well as vegetation they honked their way down in gaggles of 10 to 20 birds.

## Neighbourhood Watch

The Police delivered Community Information Notices in the village on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, following a number of burglaries in the area between 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> August. If anyone saw anything suspicious or has any information that may be relevant we are asked to contact Easingwold Police station via Telephone 101 quoting incident number 12160143176 – **However trivial it may be important.** So far as is known, there have been no further incidents and, according to Police, the Intruder has now moved on - whereabouts unknown.

On a less localised issue, please beware of a telephone scam purporting to be HMR&C official business. Callers are asked to Press "1" to be connected to their own case officer and are then asked for personal details, e.g. National Insurance number etc. **Ring the Police on 101 if you see suspicious vehicle(s) and / or person(s) at any time. Ring 999 for emergencies**

## Weather Report August 2016

**Rainfall** - The total rainfall in July was 32.5 mm, less than half the ten-year average figure of 68 mm. In the first sixteen days of August we have had 11.5 mm, again well below the average figure. At the time of writing we have had seven consecutive days without measurable rainfall.

**Temperature** - The temperature in my garden reached 32.6°C on July 19<sup>th</sup> which is above the record high for York for the month, according to the published statistics. This was part of a five day mini-heatwave, but does not reflect a hot month overall. However, the solar panel output for July was back up to the May level, the highest this year. In August so far we have been back to usual summer temperatures, reaching the low twenties on most days. Night-time temperatures have only once fallen below 10°C.

DR. P. R. JONES MB, ChB

DR. B. McPHERSON MB, ChB

The Surgery, North Back Lane, Stillington, YO61 1LL

Tel: 01347 810332

Fax: 01347 811190

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

email: [VOYCCG.B82079prescriptions@nhs.net](mailto:VOYCCG.B82079prescriptions@nhs.net)

## SEASONAL FLU CLINICS

1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016

If you are over 65 or in one of the at risk groups,  
please contact the surgery to make an  
appointment for this immunisation



MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

+ 3 course meal

STILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Friday September 30th

At 7-30pm

Tickets £10 from Village Shop

Welcome to the September edition of Stillington News. Copy deadline for the October issue is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Contributions by email with copies to both [christopherpotter313@btinternet.com](mailto:christopherpotter313@btinternet.com) and [suehpacer@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:suehpacer@yahoo.co.uk), or put in the 'Stillo News envelope at the shop (with contact details).

### Stillington Bowling Club

Easingwold have deservedly regained the Charity Challenge Shield played for annually home and away between Stillington and Easingwold. The second leg on Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup> at Easingwold again produced a close result with the home side overturning a shots-deficit from the first game played earlier in the season. This fixture is always well supported by players from both clubs, the primary aim being to raise some money for their chosen beneficiary. In this case it was St Leonards Hospice that will receive the splendid sum of £200. Everyone who took part can look with satisfaction on another successful event. Next month's report will summarise the season in particular the final league team placings and the winners of the internal club competitions. GB.

### Stillington Tennis

With all matches played it's likely that both mixed teams will be relegated to Divs. 5 and 8 respectively. However the season has probably seen a record number of different players taking part. Adrian Streetley, Peter Jones and Julian Terry were the top scoring men for 1<sup>st</sup> team; Tim Adams was the outstanding 2<sup>nd</sup> team scorer. Liz Burdett and Katy Fowler were the top 1<sup>st</sup> team lady scorers and Jennifer Jones and Niamh Wragg for the 2<sup>nd</sup> team. The courts are open and available for members & their families and Club play continues on Saturday afternoons.



**An OSCA for Dennis**

### **SHORT MAT BOWLS**

**A new season of Short Mat Bowls begins in the Village Hall on 20th September.**

**Anyone who would like to try this sport are welcome to come along and give it a go.**

**Sessions are held on Tuesday afternoons during the winter from 2 to 4 pm.**

### PRIME TIME STARTS AGAIN

Prime Time returns on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

For those of you new to the village, Prime time is aimed at people who are less able than they used to be, with a sporting interest. It is competitive, fun and very sociable. We meet every Monday afternoon at 1:30pm in the Sports and Social Club where there is plenty of parking and easy access.

The cost is £3 per 2 hour session including refreshments (often home-made!) - Hope to see you there.

**For more information ring Angela on 811032**

### **STILLINGTON WANDERERS**

Walkers followed the River Rye valley from Helmsley on 1<sup>st</sup> August to a riverside commercial fishery with its series of pools housing ever larger rainbow trout. Having crossed the river, the walk continued along the route of the disused rail track back to Helmsley. The line was closed to passengers in 1953 apart from special excursions until 1964. Earl Feversham had sponsored the building of the line & a grand station. It was mainly used for freight and timber in particular.

It was an Alne, Youlton & Tollerton circle on 15<sup>th</sup> August with glimpses of Alne Hall Cheshire Home; Kilburn White Horse in the distance; aeroplane engines heard from Linton on Ouse but no wind to hear the NE main line trains.

Next walks are Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September. Meet outside the White Bear at 09.30.

### **STILLINGTON CRICKET CLUB**

Stalwart Dennis North has been honoured by the Yorkshire Cricket Board this season presenting him with an Outstanding Services to Cricket Award (OSCA), presented each year in recognition of the efforts of volunteers across the county who have made significant contributions to the promotion of cricket in different categories. He is pictured receiving his award from Chris West, YCB Chairman at a ceremony at Headingley on Yorkshire day earlier this month.

Dennis was successful in the category of "Get the game on". This reflects an ECB campaign designed to boost participation, and which recognises that cricket needs everyone - players, captains, coaches, umpires, groundsmen and volunteers - to take an active role in the campaign and play their part in ensuring that as many games as possible are completed each season. The citation for Dennis highlighted not only his contribution as groundsmen over very many years, but also the multiplicity of roles on and off the field which he undertakes on match days to ensure that the game can go ahead. Dennis will now go forward to be considered for a national award in this category at Lords.

## IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Friday 19 August - the weather has changed today and is forecast to be rather showery for the next few days. It is rather welcome to have seen some moisture about again as it has become very dry with the daytime heat and often drying breeze. The grass has suffered and where there was plenty for the livestock, there is now a shortfall of the greener lush leafy blades that they like. Eating the browner grass will of course be less nutritious. The thin soils on the North Yorkshire moors are getting burnt up and looking very brown. Of course the fine dry weather has been a boon to the farmer with hay to make and harvest to gather. By the time you read this all sorts might have happened on the weather front or not. Our pond is a challenge that needs to be tackled whilst the water table is down. We introduced bogbean from the north of Scotland nearly 50 years ago and it has colonised a large area in recent times. Its leaves are well rounded like broad bean leaves but the flowers, a faint pinky white, are a bit like those of a hyacinth. The other invaders to be thinned out are bull rush and flag iris, the former being the most invasive.

I have advocated a walk in the garden in several jottings. These can be very rewarding with so much to see and smell, especially for me, at eventide when the world dies down and relaxes for the night. I find this a wonderful nightcap. However some dog fouling is taking place on the grass at the chapel and other places in the village. This is unacceptable behaviour in our wonderful community. This along with fly tipping is a scourge on our society. We have had two lots of fly tipping, the first a truck load of laurel prunings and last week a trailer load of plastic children's toys, packaging and rubbish. This followed the dumping of old furniture earlier in the year. How can we sit back and let this happen to spoil our enjoyment of our environment?

Our butterfly garden has been a hive of activity during the sunny days where we have been treated to peacocks, small tortoiseshells and more than usual red admirals. Watching these at the beginning of August one morning, along came a painted lady followed by a second. These were the first of the season, when suddenly round the corner I saw a flash of orange. This was a comma with its indented wing edges. They are not really orange when they alight on a flower to feed, but in flight at first glance it is orange that strikes you. We are seeing more of these butterflies in recent years due to climate change which is allowing many species to come further north. It's tough for those whose home is further north – will they get pushed over the edge? Earlier in August we were treated to two and sometimes three little egrets, resting on harvested ground near the

Mill at Stillington. These birds are increasing in number throughout the UK. They are partial migrants and are easily spotted as they are pure white in plumage with black beaks and legs who rest on open land in a heron like posture. They are of the heron family and are about two thirds of the size of the grey heron that we are more familiar with.

This week we have had friends staying with us so we have had time to go see our heather moors and what a stunning sight they are in their fine purples and pinks and nectar filled air to fill our lungs. Long may we enjoy these sights which are kept in good condition by keepers who burn the heather so it regenerates and shepherds whose sheep graze the grasses. Grouse shooting is under threat and bureaucracy and viability are threats to the sheep industry on these open grazings. If proper management ceases then these areas will quickly revert to scrub land again. It was on this outing that we saw a drama played out, until we disturbed it, between a weasel and a large frog. The weasel didn't seem to know how to tackle the frog with its long legs and ability to jump but was out for the kill. However the weasel went for cover on the right and the frog jumped over to the left into the grass. It was just round a corner in the road where this took place so keep looking as you journey on for surprises.

R&MJ

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### *Friends of Stillington School*

#### **Family Friendly Village Treasure Hunt**

**Sunday 18th September**

**2pm start from the School Hall**

**Tickets £3 per person,**

**including delicious home made refreshments!**

**On sale at the Post Office and Shop**

**Make a team up on the day**

**Preschool children – no ticket, 50p for their**

**refreshments**

**Prizes and a raffle.**

## Stillington and Farlington WI

At our August meeting we celebrated Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday. We had afternoon tea in our Presidents garden and the weather was glorious. Pride of place was a birthday cake to our queen but we all enjoyed it on her behalf.

Lots of outings were happening during August. There was a meal at Solberge Hall, organised by the federation. One of our ladies went and met up with lots of other good friends from other WI's. It was a two course meal and there was also a speaker. Keith Goodchild was the speaker and told of his time in the Life Guards and his recollections of ceremonial duties and trouping of the colour. The Federation also organised a Treasure Hunt and again one of our ladies teamed up with a lady from Brigantes WI and they came third out of about 25 teams.

Some of our ladies had a visit to a real life Bee Hive. It was absolutely brilliant. We all dressed up in an all over suit with a hat and netting and had everything tucked in, just in case. Our hosts were Pauline and Graham, Thank you so much for our visit and the tea and cake. You made us all feel so welcome. We are all looking at plants for the garden in a different way now. And asking ourselves are these the best for bees?



*The Yam Bomb*

A very big event happened at the end of July. 570 WI ladies all congregated at Walesby Forest in Nottinghamshire. This event was Tea & Tents and is in its third year. Many different WI's from many different groups, from all over the country gathered together to share a weekend of fun, sisterhood, talks, demonstrations, hot tubs and many many more things. There were workshops teaching crochet, knitting, sewing, as well as flower crowns, paper craft and the unusual beer swap. It was an absolutely fantastic time and I thoroughly enjoyed every single second. In the build up to the Tea & Tents people were asked if they would like to knit something towards a Yarn Bomb.

This was a way of bringing the group together with a common purpose. The land girl allotment was the theme. There was a

list of items to be made including a rabbit, carrots, a bird house, a bee hive as well as brown squares for the soil and green squares for the garden path. At the weekend everyone brought their items and put the Yarn Bomb together. It is huge. I asked where it would be going after the weekend and was told I could have it for Stillington & Farlington WI, so we now have a marvellous Yarn Bomb for other groups to hire out if they wish to. For anyone who has not been to Thirsk and seen that Yarn Bomb, a yarn bomb is where an area is covered with knitted pieces ie all over a bench or over a flower pot.

September is a special speaker as she is the recipient of a heart/lung transplant. Our talk 'The Gift of Life' will be at 8pm on the 2nd Wednesday of September. Visitors £3 including refreshments. If any one wants to see what we do at the WI meetings then please come along at 7.15pm. We are slowly expanding but would still love more ladies to join our evenings of talks, demonstrations, outings, fun and friendship

Shirley M.

## SCHOOL NEWS

Soon the children will be returning to school after six weeks well earned rest, ready (hopefully) to learn lots of new things.

We have five children joining us in the Infant class, who have a new teacher, Mrs Sonia Gruenfeld.

Unfortunately, lack of available space prevented our thank you being published last month when we wanted to express A Very Big Thank You...to the four fabulous ladies from Stillington and Farlington W.I who have knitted characters for the Infant's story sacks. They are absolutely wonderful and the children (and staff!) are delighted with them.

Which leads to a thanks to all those who supported the school, and FoSS events, last year. We are very grateful and very much hope you will continue your support this next year with our first event, a family friendly village treasure hunt, being held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September, starting 2pm in the school hall. It's a great opportunity to take a Sunday afternoon walk around our village to find some things that probably go unnoticed, and then come back to the school for a drink and a slice of delicious homemade cake!

Rural Arts in association with Stillington Gardening Club present John Cobb's one-man show, "Capability Brown", at the Village Hall on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30pm.

This will mark the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the renowned landscape gardener. More details next month, but put the date in your

**PARISH REGISTER**  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2016  
Memorial Service for  
**PETER MILBURN**

**ST NICHOLAS FLOWER ROTA**

4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Mrs A Hope
11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Mrs R Little
18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Mrs A Cobb
25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Mrs P Clark

**THANK YOU**  
Thank you for the help with **Cleaning the Village Bench Seats.**  
And thank you to the many walkers who created piles of rotting **Himalayan Balsam** along the York Road woodland footpath. We shall see the results of the sterling effort next summer.

**St Nicholas 200 Club**  
1st Mr N Hugill  
2nd Mrs P Dodd  
2nd Mr C Dent  
R.U. Dr A D Martin  
R.U. Mrs C Frost  
R.U. Mrs J Rawling  
R.U. Mr B Eldred  
R.U. Master T Clark  
Drawn by "Our Ernie"

**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH CLEANING**  
22<sup>nd</sup> Aug to 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept  
Mrs Hawker & Mrs M North

5<sup>th</sup> Sept to 17<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Mr & Mrs A Ratcliffe

19<sup>th</sup> Sept to 1<sup>st</sup> Oct  
Mrs Hope & Mr & Mrs J Ratcliffe

**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH**

Invites you to a  
**HARVEST SUPPER**  
On Friday September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
2016  
At Stillington Village Hall  
At 7pm  
Tickets £7  
Available from the Post Office

**Harvest Festival**  
**St Leonard's, Farlington**

In the middle of August we held the traditional Lammas service – celebrating the first fruits of the harvest. Now, on **Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6.30pm** we will be celebrating the end of the farming year – the Harvest Home – at our Harvest Festival service. Why not join us for a traditional celebration of this vital countryside occasion, you will be very welcome. The service will be followed by the usual excellent harvest supper.

Looking ahead ..... **St Leonard's goes to Castle Howard** on November 27<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm. By kind invitation of the Chaplain of Castle Howard we shall be holding an Advent Carol Service in the chapel at Castle Howard. There will be more details nearer the time.

**VILLAGE LUNCH**  
**WHITE BEAR INN**  
**TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**FROM 12.30PM**

**£6.50 2 COURSES/**  
**£7.50 3 COURSES**

**ENJOY A GOOD MEAL AND**  
**GOOD COMPANY**

**CHARITY QUIZ**  
**White Bear Inn**  
**Sunday**  
**25<sup>th</sup> September**  
**7.30pm**

**Tea Time Messy Church**  
At St Nicholas Church, Stillington  
Sunday 25 September  
4.30 - 6.30pm  
**Let's celebrate**  
**HARVEST**  
Friends, Food, Fun and faith  
For the whole family  
**Everyone very welcome!**  
All children must be accompanied by an adult.  
**"Love God's World!"**

**FILM MATINEES - at the Chapel**  
**Wednesday 21 September**  
**2.00pm**

**Everyone welcome. Come along**  
**and bring your friends.**



**Quizzes restarting at the Sports and Social Club**  
General Knowledge quizzes will restart Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00pm. The quizzes are the first Friday of each month from October to March. All are Welcome. Generally it is teams of four: £8 per table with supper included.

**SEPTEMBER VILLAGE DIARY**

(VH = Events at the Village Hall)

Sat	3	Cricket I v Rowntrees, II v Huby (away)
Sun	4	Bowls 3 Woods
Mon	5	Dominoes 5&3s v White Bear (away) Prime Time 1.30pm Village Hall committee 7.00pm VH
Wed	7	Pool competition 8.30pm Parish Council 7.30pm VH
Thurs	8	Martial arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Fri	9	Baby & Toddler group 10.00am VH
Sat	10	Cricket I v Sheriff Hutton Bowls final day
Mon	12	Prime Time 1.30pm Garden club meeting 7.30pm Dominoes 5&3s v Mended Drum
Wed	14	Pool competitions WI 7.15pm VH
Thurs	15	Martial arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Fri	16	Baby & Toddler group 10.00am VH
Sat	17	Football 2.30pm
Mon	19	Prime Time 1.30pm Dominoes v Blacksmiths (away)
Tues	20	Monthly meeting 8.00pm Short mat bowls 2.00pm VH
Wed	21	Pool A v Horseshoe (away), B v Old Black Bull
Thurs	22	Martial arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Fri	23	Baby & Toddler group 10.00am VH Village harvest supper 7.30pm VH
Sat	24	Football
Sun	25	Pool double competition
Mon	26	Prime Time 1.30pm Dominoes 5&3s v Angel (away)
Tues	27	Short mat bowls 2.00pm VH Bowls match 7.00pm VH
Wed	28	Pool A v Highwayman, B v Commercial (away) Garden Club "Wonderful weeds" 7.30pm VH
Thurs	29	Martial arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Fri	30	Baby & Toddler group 10.00am VH Murder Mystery evening 7.00pm VH

**OCT.**

Sat	1	Football 2.00pm
Mon	3	Prime Time 1.30pm Dominoes 5&3s v Black Horse

**St John the Evangelist RC Easingwold**

<b>Priest</b>	Fr Leo Chamberlain	821295
	Sunday Mass	8.30 & 10.30am
	Vigil Mass Sunday	5.45pm
	Confessions Saturday	5-5.30pm
<b>Website</b>	www.stjohneasingwold.ampleforth.org.uk	

**St Nicholas**

<b>Priest in charge</b>	Canon Robert Law	810940
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Muriel Law	810484
	Janet Martin	822981
	Email: Jessie.jm158@gmail.com	

**Stillington and Benefice Services:**

1 September	Prayers for the Village	9 am
4 September	Morning Prayer	9.30 am
8 September	Prayers for the Village	9 am
11 September	Holy Communion Traditional	9.30 am
15 September	Prayers for the Village	9 am
18 September	Benefice Eucharist Stillington	9.30 am
22 September	Prayers for the Village	9 am
25 September	Harvest Festival common worship communion	9.30 am
29 September	Prayers for the Village	9 am

**Methodist Chapel**

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Elizabeth Cushion	821460
<b>Stewards</b>	Robin Jackson	810250
	Bob Brown	810543
	Sally Gail	810374
	Yvonne Murphy	811544
4 September	Bible study Robin Jackson	10.30am
	Welcome service at Clifton	4.00pm
11 September	Evening service conducted by Mr E Royle	6.30pm
18 September	Evening service with Communion conducted by Rev Elizabeth Cushion	6.30pm
25 September	Evening service conducted by Rev Julia Skitt	6.30pm
2 October	Harvest celebration	6.30pm

**St Leonard Farlington**

<b>Church Wardens</b>	Louise Clark	811626
	Sally Downing	878745
11 September	Shortened Matins	11.15am
23 September	Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Supper	6.30pm
25 September	Holy Communion (BCP)	11.15am

**St Mary Marton**

	Services in Celtic Tradition	
<b>Church Warden</b>	Sally Coomer	
	Email: sally@scoomer.freeserve.co.uk	
4 September –	Celtic Eucharist	6.00pm
18 September –	Celtic Evening Worship	6.00pm

**NEW BEGINNINGS**

At this time of year the harvest is gathered and the nights beginning to creep in, a reminder that the summer is drawing to an end. But in other ways, this month brings new beginnings. The school year begins, with children going into a new class. Groups and activities start again after the summer break, and routine begins again after the holidays. In the Methodist church the new year also begins in September. For me there is another new beginning as the manse in Easingwold is changing and I am preparing to move house. Packing is not easy and I wonder how I have managed to accumulate so much stuff even in the four years I have been here. But moving is also a good opportunity for a sort-out and to get rid of things that are not needed.

*Elizabeth Cushion*