



Stillington News



Issue 275

www.stillingtonvillage.org

December 2017



It's Beginning to Look a lot like Christmas...



Village Christmas Lunch At the White Bear Inn will be held on Tuesday 19th December

Menus and order forms are available from The White Bear or the Post Office.

Please reserve your lunch and table by Monday 11th December
Hope to see you all there!
Many thanks, Phil and Sue Robinson.

Gardening Club Christmas Party & Quiz Wed 20th Dec 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Members and Guests are warmly invited to this event, which will as usual include wine and food provided by our members, Bob's Special Quiz and a large Raffle.

The Newton Singers
Conducted by Mr Les Bresnen
Invite you to a
Christmas Concert & Afternoon

Tea
At St Nicholas Church,
Stillington
On Sunday December 3rd 2017
at 3pm.

Admission £5



A Request

Singers of all abilities are required to form a choir for the:
Stillington Candlelit Carols and Readings
At Stillington Church
Tuesday 19th December at 7pm
Rehearsals will take place on Wednesday 6th & 13th December at 6.30pm in Church. We will be singing traditional carols and maybe a choir item so please come along and join us.

The perfect after-Christmas pick-me-up

Pocket Panto proudly presents:
CINDERELLA
the most enchanting pantomime of them all
At

Stillington Village Hall
Saturday 30th December 2.30pm

With Brogan Hollindrake as Cinderella, Ruth Berkoff as Prince Charming and our wonderful Dame, Jeremy Stroughair, this promises to be a real ball!

Tickets £8 adults, £4 children available from the Village Stores or 811544

Probably best to buy tickets in advance as Pocket Panto is building up quite a local following and we would like you to have a seat!

**STILLINGTON SURGERY
WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY 25th & TUESDAY 26th DECEMBER
ALSO
MONDAY 1st JANUARY 2018
TO GUARANTEE MEDICATION IN TIME FOR THE
HOLIDAYS PLEASE ORDER BY
TUESDAY 19th DECEMBER
HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR PATIENTS**



St Nicholas Parish Church
Invites all families to the
Benefice Family Celebration
of the Feast of St Nicholas



Sunday 3rd December
10.30am
ALL WELCOME
O holy night!

Carols by Candlelight at Farlington ~ Friday, December 22nd at 6.30pm

St Leonard's Church in Farlington warmly welcomes everyone to its traditional, candlelit service of well-loved carols and lessons. After the service, mulled wine and mince pies will be served along with soft drinks and Christmas biscuits for children. This much-enjoyed carol service is an excellent way to start the season of Christmas and whether you live in Farlington or one of the villages around we look forward to you joining us on the Friday 22nd

Chips and Sandwiches available at the Blacksmith's Arms, after the Carol Service - £5 per head. If you wish to join us for this please let **Louise (811626) or Sally (878745)** know by December 15th.

Due to the holiday season Please email contributions for the **December** issue to news@stillingtonvillage.org by **15th December**. We wish you a Merry Christmas!

**We've hidden 20
Christmas songs/carols
in the paper, can you
find them all?**



St Leonard's Goes to Castle Howard

By kind invitation of the
Chaplain, St Leonard's is
holding an
**Advent Carol Service in the
chapel at Castle Howard at
3.30pm on Advent Sunday,
December 3rd.**

Everyone welcome and no
admission charges apply if
you are only attending the
service.

Red Telephone Box (Mini Library)

Work has now been
completed to convert the
Telephone Box into a Mini
Library and books are
available to take and read.
However, more books are
needed and donations of any
books you have read and no
longer need would be very
welcome. These can just be
placed inside the Box.
Do try and visit the Box and
see what is available: you may
even find a book you have
been meaning to read for
sometime.
**For further information
please contact Bob Brown
01347810543**

**Your editors are: Emma
Johnson & Tracy
Sinclair. If you would
like to contact us please
do so using the
Stillington News email.**

Stillington 2 Oil Cooperative

**The Oil Cooperative price for deliveries on 14th Nov
41.06ppl + VAT.**

Our agreement with Tate Oil does not apply in December. This is to encourage Cooperative Members to order outside Tate's busiest period. Tate will still accept orders placed in December, but the price charged will be the normal market rate, not the discounted Cooperative rate, **UNLESS** you make it very clear that the order is for January delivery.

Don't forget, apart from December, you can order at any time: no need to wait for a fixed order date, or wait for the tank to run dry - the only requirement is that you must be able to accept 500 litres or over.

The easiest way to order is on-line - www.tateoil.co.uk Look for the Login button at the top of the page, then select LSOS (Lower Swale Oil Syndicate) and enter the password or phone **Amanda on 01943 854888** and tell her you a Cooperative Member. Tate Oil has undertaken to deliver within ten days, but I know of two examples recently, where the delivery has arrived the following day — absolutely brilliant service!!

If these updates are no longer relevant to you, please let me know and I will remove your name from the Membership list so that you are not troubled in future.

Tim Drew & Peter Coomer

Stillington Gardening Club

Peter Walker : Carnivorous Plants - Review

Well, what a surprise! I can only say that those of us who gathered for this talk were stiffened by a sense of duty. I didn't like the thought of plants eating insects, and I gather there were others like me. But when Peter explained that this family of plants grow in water alone and have adapted to get needed nutrients from insects, I gave them a hearing – maybe we all have to be adaptable to survive. The Holly and the Ivy!

Their beauty alone won us over – lovely colours and orchid like flowers. No wonder they attract a lot of attention at the Harrogate Flower Shows. We mostly heard about sundews and pitcher plants, some from South America, some from Australia and some from our own English bogs and streams.

We could see why Peter is such an enthusiast, and several of our members are already finding them ideal houseplants!

If you feel you would like to know more, Peter propagates these plants at his "Wack's Wicked Plants" Nursery near the entrance to Scampston Hall Gardens.

Sally Coomer

Quiz at the Sports and Social Club

The November Quiz raised £290 for the Tennis Club towards the next court re-surface. The winning team was Janet & David Martin, David Hargreaves & Brian Handley. December Quiz will be for the Football Club.



Road Repairs

Driving home for Christmas!
Depending upon the weather, road patching & resurfacing works will start: **Wed 6th Dec to Mon 18th Dec from Crayke Lane end to Easingwold. The road will be closed during working hours Mon to Fri 8am to 7.30pm.**

Village Footpaths

Please contact Bob Brown, Clerk to Parish Council if you'd like to help with some volunteer footpath work, cutting back overgrown grass.



Stillington Wanderers

24th October walk started from the Castle Howard Monument (to 7th Earl of Carlisle); across to Bulmer and back via Welburn giving splendid views of the House, Pyramid, Temple & Mausoleum. With a different group of walkers Beckdale & Ashdale, Helmsley were re-visited & building progress reported on the large sheltered housing estate. It was Hovingham Spa this week to Cawton & back via the disused rail track.

Next walks: Monday 4th & 18th December. Meet outside the White Bear at 9.30am.

Coming to town - Santa!

Children in Need

Thank you to the Shop & PO customers who donated **£31.71** in the Children In Need red bucket.

Your Village Defibrillator is kept in the Church Porch Available 24/7

Remember: Call an Ambulance, start CPR, get the Defibrillator - it will tell you what to do

Stillington & Farlington WI November Report

The November meeting welcomed back Margaret Price, who gave a very informative talk about Fair-trade products. Many items can be purchased within Fair-trade agreements. These include: fabric softener, washing up liquid, rice and coffee. Another very popular fair-trade product is Chocolate. Margaret showed us many different flavours. She also showed us some chocolate items that would make wonderful presents for Christmas.

Our knitting project for this year is now complete and has been given to Stillington School, reception class. It consisted of 3 sets of doll clothes, bedding for a dolls pram and also for a doll's cot, cushion covers and an extra cushion for the reading corner, a shadow table cloth for the home corner and also a pram blanket. Thank you to our ladies who did the knitting and sewing.

As I look back over the year we have done some wonderful things: travelled to India and Japan, made felt brooches, paper swans and Christmas wreaths, had an insight into life in a palace, experienced ghostly sightings, enjoyed social evenings and seen how our shopping can impact others. All in all we have had a good year and the programme is almost complete for next year.

Our December meeting will be a social evening.

Stillington & Farlington WI ladies would like to invite all ladies in the villages to visit and see what we are about. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the village hall 7.15pm for our meeting, and 8pm for our speaker, demonstration, talk etc. If you just want to join us after business then it's £3 including refreshments. If you wish to find out more about what we do then please feel free to join us at 7.15pm. O Come all Ye Faithful!

Shirley M

Neighbourhood Watch

Please be aware of **Door Callers** selling goods from a pack / bag. We have had recent incidents of young men in the village admitting they were past offenders now trying to get back on "their feet". They have no licence to sell; wouldn't give their names or produce identity cards.

Please do not encourage these unofficial door callers. And they should certainly not be calling on people in the dark.

Thank you to the South Back Lane resident who notified NW as it was still possible to trace their whereabouts and question them before they were "picked up" to be taken home.

If you have any concerns tel. 101 to advise the police: if available, the police will visit to interview. If there is threatening behaviour call 999.

Beware of both ongoing & new Scams; whether it's offers to tarmac paths & drives; telephone calls from Microsoft or BT reporting faults with your computer; HMRC advising you have an outstanding tax bill or money sent to internet "correspondents".

Sports and Social Club Christmas Draw

Tuesday 19th Dec 8.30pm

The Club's £1 Christmas Draw board is starting to fill. Everyone is invited to join and there is an abundance of prizes to be won. The Draw will take place Tuesday 19 December at 8.30pm with refreshments. Will it be a Silent Night!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 1st November 2017

Jenny Wren Footpath

The NYCC Footpath Officer has assessed that a fence constructed down the centre of the footpath parallel to houses Arydale and Lamorna is causing an obstruction. They will contact the landowner to have this removed.

Bird Mouth Fencing

A meeting with NYCC Highways determined that both fencing and posts needed urgent attention. The Highways view is that the fence is not a safety barrier and therefore their liability is limited. The Parish Council however, believe the fence is integral to the safety of people walking along the path. It was agreed with NYCC that they would review the replacement of some of the fences and posts and report back to The Parish Council in time for the December meeting.

Community Speed Watch Scheme

The volunteer training session has been re-scheduled for 6th November. It is still anticipated that the first speed monitoring will take place late November/early December.

Stillington Post Office & Stores

Owned by the community. Run by volunteers

BE AN EARLY MORNING HERO and Deck the Halls!

Every morning at 6.30am (except Sundays) a local hero opens up the village shop, sorts the newspapers for delivery around the village, and sells papers, drinks and sandwiches to people on their way to work, kids on their way to school, and villagers and passers-by grateful that the shop is open so early...

For one day a week (or a fortnight) you could be that early-morning hero.

Apart from the early rise, it's not that difficult. 2 or 3 sessions shadowing other members of our squad will show you all you need to learn. Even once you're on your own, support is always on hand.

And when you set off home at 9am for your well-earned breakfast, you'll know you've already done something slightly heroic with your day.

To find out more please contact Howard Williams: 811278 or howardw1151@btinternet.com

Community Speed Watch to Start in Stillington

Community Speed Watch is a national initiative supported by North Yorkshire police designed to help keep our roads safe by combating **vehicles exceeding the speed limit** through residential areas. Whilst the majority are responsible drivers, it has been noticed that some vehicles do **exceed the speed limit** through our village. As a consequence, the police have agreed that the Speedwatch Initiative should be rolled out in Stillington. A number of volunteers have been trained and we will begin to formally monitor speeds and report any vehicles found exceeding the speed limit later in the month. We will be carrying out Speedwatch monitoring at intervals over the coming months. The owners of vehicles caught speeding will receive letters from the police advising them of the fact.

Stillington Parish Council

Stillington Bonfire 2017

When I arrived to help with preparations on the day, the field seemed to be something of a quagmire. The more experienced "veterans" of bonfire preparations were more relaxed and the general consensus was that it would be alright.

Last year, the bonfire and firework display were excellent. This year's equally so, if not better. The parade was longer than last year; the bonfire enormous and when lit, gave off a tremendous heat and must have been visible from miles around; the firework display was spectacular and the excellent food all consumed. Joy to the World!

Of course, none of it could have taken place without the work of a small army of volunteers who made sure that the thousands who turned up on the night could watch in safety. Enormous thanks to all those who helped. In particular, the farmers who supported the bonfire preparations; by making the field available and by providing the necessary equipment to both collect material and build the bonfire.

We can now look forward to next year's bonfire! Will the bonfire be bigger and the fireworks even better? The answers will depend upon the volunteers. Keep an eye out for announcements in next year's Stillington News to find out how 'you' can become involved. I can assure you, if you do volunteer, you will thoroughly enjoy the whole experience.

Dick Tregga

Bonfire Praises

Q: Did you enjoy the bonfire?

A: It was fab! And the fireworks were amazing, best I've ever seen. There were loads there, great night out.

This from a veteran of 17 years of Stillington bonfires - now aged 20

Brenda

Top awards for The Bay Tree

Stillington can boast about many great things in its village and now to add to them The Bay Tree has won "Pub of the Year" **White Rose Awards 2017**. The White Rose Awards are the largest celebration of Tourism excellence in the UK and from a shortlist of 6 Yorkshire pubs The Bay Tree won the top prize.

The Pub and Restaurant was taken over by Harri Scott, a local Yorkshire girl who worked in The Bay Tree when she was 15, and Ed Allen, a talented chef who has worked in a number of fine restaurants. It is their first business venture together and they refurbished and reopened the pub in August 2015.

"To come back home after ten years, and take our local pub on to win a big award like this is something we're really proud of. We are such a little team, we are just amazed we won." - Harri

With Harri and Ed are just Rosie and Jess working front of house and Dan in the kitchen. They are clearly on to a good thing with a strong hard working team as The Bay Tree is also a **Finalist in the Flavours of Herriot Country 2017**, an award that celebrates local food and drink in Hambleton and Richmond.

EJ



Stillington Playgroup

The term leading up to Christmas is always a busy one! One of the first activities after the Autumn half term was to create firework pictures using paint, marbles and wax crayons. The children had banana 'rockets' for their morning snack, made their Halloween pumpkin into soup which everyone tried and had a fabulous time with imaginary play, creating a dark den with flashing lights to look like fireworks!

Leading up to Remembrance Day we discussed the importance of Remembrance Sunday and the significance of wearing a poppy. The children made their own poppies using paint and paper. The children are now learning about the meaning of Christmas, have helped design a lovely Christmas grotto and will be singing at the village Christmas meal in the White Bear. At the end of term they are hoping for Santa to pay a visit at our Christmas party!



We are an independent playgroup run on the premises of Stillington Primary School and open 9:10am until 3:20pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during term time. We take children aged from 2 to 5 years old. Funded places are available and we accept childcare vouchers.

If you would like to bring your child to see what else we do at Stillington Playgroup you are welcome to visit together on Thursday mornings from 9:30am to 10:30am, a snack is provided for all children.

Contact: 07779 414226

Website: www.stillingtonunderfives.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1023684

Ofsted Unique Reference Number: EY308489



Stillington Sports and Social Club

December

Fri 1st	British Caravan Club Rally Indoor Social Bowls	2-4pm
Sat 2nd	Football (U13s) Football v St Clements Dominoes	Home 2.00pm 8.30pm
Sun 3rd	Ladies Squash	5pm
Mon 4th	Sewing and Embroidery Class Prime Time	10am -1pm 1.30-3.30pm
Wed 6th	St Cuthberts Bowling Club v Hambleton Pool A v Old Black Bull Pool B v Horseshoe	Home Away Home
Fri 8th	Social Bowl	2-4pm
Sat 9th	Football (U13) Football v LNER Dominoes	Home 2pm 8.30pm
Mon 11th	Dominoes 5s and 3s v Black Horse Prime Time	Home 1.30-3.30pm
Wed 13th	Pool A v Horseshoe Pool B v Old Black Bull	Home
Fri 15th	Social Bowl	2-4pm
Sat 16th	Football (U13) Football v St Clements	Away
Mon 18th	Dominoes 5s and 3s v Old Black Bull	Away
Tues 19th	St Cuthbert's Bowling Club v Kirby Misperton	7.00pm
Sat 23rd	Dominoes	8.30pm
Tues 26th	Boxing Day Charity Football	11.00am

The Annual Charity Football Match has proved very popular for many years. There will be a raffle with a large number of seasonal prizes donated by the players, with all proceeds going to charities they select. Please feel free to join in. Contact Carol of the bells!

Weather Report November 2017

Rainfall

The second half of October saw a little more rain than the first half, but the total for the month, at 51 mm, was still below average.

The first half of November has been very dry, only 9 mm so far, and eleven rainless days. The only time we had heavy rain was the day before the bonfire, when 5mm fell.

Temperatures

October was generally mild. The temperature was above average on no fewer than twenty-four days. The highest it reached was 21.7°C on the 15th. The nights were generally mild until the night of 29/30th when it fell to 3.3°C. A Winter Wonderland?

The first half of November has also been generally mild, with daytime temperatures getting above 10°C every day. The highest was 14.6°C on the 14th of the month. Overnight we have had the first frosts of winter, with the temperature falling to -0.7°C on the night of 5th/6th. Not surprisingly, sunshine figures are rapidly falling towards winter levels. Shorter days, together with the sun being lower in the sky, meant that the solar panel output in October was less than half that in a summer month.

Countryside Notes

Tonight, 23rd November, after a day of sunshine and showers, I am taking up my pen. There are a few large flocks of Lapwing or Green Plover or Pee-wits, under which title you want, that are always a welcome sight at this time of the year, seen with their distinctive black and white plumage and rounded wing ends and, of course, their pee-wit call. However, also look for some smaller sleeker birds amongst them, as often there will be Golden Plovers in the flock. These birds are one of our fastest flying birds over a distance. The name doesn't become apparent until you have seen them in a field with the sun shining on them, where they look like blocks of gold, once seen never forgotten. Of course, the Green Plover is a deep green with blue and purple when the iridescent plumage is seen to full advantage, with its long crest waving in the breeze. Just now, 8.15pm, a cock Pheasant has called out reminding me that his iridescent feathers should be noted. Well, I've done that 'My Lord' so go back to sleep! He was fighting this afternoon with another old cock about 5 feet from our back door. I think they have found the spilt seed round the bird feeders.

There are still many leaves on the Oak and other trees, with their wonderful colours to be enjoyed. However, I travel, and have done so for a number of years, by Huby Burn towards Tollerton Crossroads, and only this year have I noted two shrubby bushes with vivid pink berries that are turning more scarlet, so an investigation was called for. The pink berries have an orange seed in them and are the fruits of the Spindle Tree, so called because its straight short branches were used in the Cotton Industry - for spindles of course. How have I missed these two?

Yesterday, a Queen Wasp landed on my coat sleeve. By now, she should be hibernating, locked by her teeth in some cosy corner. I was reminded of two or three large holes in a hedge bottom where I was fencing grass ready for sheep grazing, that would have hidden with ease a football, where Brock had dug up the nest for a feast of grubs. Each nest was started by one Queen who raised the first brood having excavated a mouse hole, lined it with chewed wood to make paper, and made the cell structure and laid eggs and nursed the first brood who were the first workers, that would lead to 10,000 Worker Wasps in each of these nests. For only the Queen over-winters, having mated with a Drone in the autumn who, having done his stuff, expires. What a hive of activity! They do not make honey for they are insectivores, consuming many garden pests through the summer.

Recently, I had a rare sight at Harrogate. I was watching a Red Kite gliding over when it was mobbed by a Carrion Crow, then a Sparrow Hawk joined in. Of course, as all three had different styles and speed of flight, it was very interesting. So, watch out for the unusual and enjoy the moment.

R&M

M.T.

The Reason for the Season...

Is it me or does Christmas seem to start earlier and earlier every year? We barely get past the autumn half term break and the shops and TV ads scream at us with ideas to make this Christmas the best, most perfect ever! What makes Christmas special can be different for different people; it could be any one thing or a mixture of many that makes your Christmas so. At this time of year many of us are focused on what we would like or what we think we need for Christmas.

Think for a moment why we have Christmas. Why, because **Jesus is the reason for the season**. There will be some who on reading that phrase inwardly groan and others who rejoice. Jesus is the reason for the season may sound glib, but let's not lose the true meaning of the arrival of the Prince of Peace.

God knew what humanity needed and still needs today. If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator. If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist. But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Saviour.

Whatever you want or what your wish may be this Christmas, my hope and prayer for you as you read this letter is that the true meaning of Christmas touches your heart; the joy and peace of Christmas fills your home and that the wonder of His love enfolds you this Christmas and always.

With very best wishes for the New Year.

Blessings, Steve

St Nicholas, Stillington

Priest: Revd Stephen Whiting 810251
Church
Wardens: Muriel Law 810484

Muriellaw1@gmail.com
Janet Martin 822981
Jessie.jm158@gmail.com

Sun 3rd Family Celebration of St Nicholas 10.30am
Sun 10th Holy Communion 9.15am
Sun 17th Christingle and Blessing of the Crib 4.30pm
Tues 19th Candlelit Carols and Readings 7pm
Thurs 21st Prayers for the Village 9am
Sun 24th Holy Communion 9.15am
Christmas Eve Christmas Midnight Mass 11pm
Thurs 28th Prayers for the Village 9am
Sun 31st Joint service at the Methodist Chapel 10.30am
January
Sun 7th Epiphany Morning Worship 9.30am

SAINT NICHOLAS CHURCH ROTA CLEANING & BRASSES

27th Nov to 9th Dec Mrs M Law & Mrs M North
11th Dec onwards **EVERYONE HELPS**

NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT

St Nicholas Parish Register Baptism

Sean Christopher Joseph Unsworth
Sunday 5th November 2017

Methodist Chapel

Minister: Rev E Cushion 821460
Stewards: Robin Jackson 810250
Gareth Papps 810094

Sun 10th Holy Communion 6.30pm
Sun 17th Carols and readings for Christmas 6.30pm
Christmas Day Hush come to Bethlehem 9.30am
Sun 31st Ecumenical Morning Worship 10.30am
January Epiphany evening
Sun 7th praise 6.30pm

Film Matinee
Wednesday 20th December
2pm at
Stillington Methodist Church
Everyone welcome

Village Hall Usage - December

Tues 5th Indoor Bowls 2pm
Bowls Match 7pm
Weds 6th Parish Council 7.30pm
Thurs 7th Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm
Sat 9th Martial Arts Afternoon
Tues 12th Indoor Bowls 2pm
Thurs 14th Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm
Weds 20th Garden Club
Christmas Party 7.30pm
Sat 30th Pocket Panto - Cinderella 2.30pm

St Mary's Marton Church

Warden: Sally Coomer 810891
sallycoomer8@gmail.com

Sun 3rd Celtic Advent Eucharist 6pm
Weds 20th Carols by Candlelight Service 7pm
January
Sun 7th Celtic evensong 6pm

St Leonard's, Farlington

Sun 10th Advent Matins 11.15am
Fri 22nd Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm
Sun 24th Holy Communion 11.15am
Christmas Day Christmas Matins 10.30am

200 Club Results

Many thanks to all who participated in our 200 Club. There are two months results, due to "Our Ernie" being away on holiday in Ireland, but we are pleased to say that things are now back to normal.

October

1st Mrs J Charlsworth
R.U. Mrs S Beddingfield
R.U. Mrs M. Fyfe
R.U. Mr C Dent
G.K. Wenceslas
R.U. Mrs R Bresnen

November

1st Mr G Fulford
R.U. Mrs J Ramsden
R.U. Mrs A Groom
R.U. Mr J. Archer
R.U. Miss K Gibson

Have yourself a merry little Christmas!