

Stillington News

Issue 265

website: www.stillingtonvillage.org

February 2017

Weather Report January 2017

Rainfall

Rainfall in December, at 34.5 mm, was only about half the ten-year average figure. Rainfall in the first sixteen days of January, at 17.5 mm, was also way below average. So why is the ground still so wet? The annual total for 2016 was 646 mm (25.5 inches), less than the last two years but more than in 2013 and a lot less than in the very wet year of 2012.

Temperature

Just like last year, December was unusually mild. The highest temperature I recorded was 14°C on Dec 1st. The lowest overnight temperature was 0°C on the 19th. On Christmas Day the temperature reached 11°C and the overnight temperature on Christmas Eve did not fall below 8°C. Not that it felt warm. How hot it feels depends on humidity and wind-speed as well as on temperature. The first half of January has again been relatively mild, despite one or two sharp frosts at the beginning of the month, -3°C on the 3rd. The precipitation on the 12th was in the form of snow, the first of the winter.

MT

A NEW VICAR

Readers will be pleased to hear that the Reverend Stephen Whiting has accepted the offer to become Priest in Charge of the Benefice of Forest of Galtres. Steve comes to us from St James' Brightmet, Bolton where he held the post of Team Vicar since October 2012. He will be moving to Sutton on the Forest with his wife and two daughters.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cyber Crime now accounts for nearly half of all crime in UK + some local NHW incidents:

- a) Beware of emails purporting to be from 'Migrant Helpline'. Fraudsters are using this genuine charity to trick members of the public. Likewise beware of emails from "service@amazon.co.uk" mimicking an automatic customer email notification of an order & requesting customer links to a help centre to receive a full refund.
- b) Fraudsters using WhatsApp may persuade you to hand over details that can be used in identity theft, such as your name and address. Other scams will try to install malicious software on your phone or tricksters start charging you for services that should be free.
And in the real world
- c) Poachers continue to be a concern – please report any such activity
- d) Vehicle batteries have been taken from trucks/vans at Moor lane, Thormanby
- e) Some sheep have been stolen from a farm between Cold Kirby and Old Byland
- f) Safe Cycling: local police are conducting a road safety campaign, concentrating on cyclists riding without lights and cyclists riding on footpaths. Cyclists to be Seen to be Safe; wear bright clothing and use cycle lights.

Enhancing Stillington's Outdoor and Recreation areas?

As mentioned last month, South Back Lane new housing has helped to provide substantial monies to improve Stillington's outdoor sport and recreation facilities.

There will be a sum of money left to progress any further outdoor village projects. This could relate to our Village Greens, registered Common Land and any open spaces we have, including the pond & its surrounds.

Please pass on any ideas to Parish Clerk, Bob Brown
Tel 810543 or stillingtonbrown@hotmail.com

Welcome to the February edition of Stillington News. Copy deadline for the March issue is Saturday 18th February. Contributions by email with copies to both christopherpotter313@btinternet.com and suehpace@yahoo.co.uk, or put in the 'Stillo News' envelope at the shop (with contact details).

STILLINGTON CC JUNIORS

Stillington Cricket Club are entering an under 11's team into the Hambleton Junior league this year after a large number of juniors attended training last year. Should there be any budding cricketers who are under 11 (school year 6 children qualify) and have an interest in cricket, or would like to try out the sport, they will be made more than welcome. Training will start prior to the season with the possibility of some indoor practice/net sessions, dependent on numbers interested.

There will be ECB qualified coaches to take training for the juniors and the club has a child welfare officer in place to provide a safe environment for children to enjoy their sport. One issue with entering a new age group team is that new playing equipment will need to be sourced, as protective equipment is essential. Some funds have already been raised through the cricket club. That said, should there be any businesses or individuals that would have an interest in sponsorship or contribution towards the funding the team, it would be most appreciated. The under 13 and 15 teams will run as they were last year, so equally if any children wish to be involved please make contact. Please contact Rich Coultous on 07814538491 to register any interest regards players or sponsorship.

STILLINGTON WANDERERS

Amazingly all walkers stayed upright for very icy walk Bank Holiday 2nd January from Galtres car park via Easingwold allotments, Haverwitz Farm & return over Claypenny Hill. With murky, damp conditions mid-month, it was a flat Newton on Ouse river side walk circumnavigating Beningbrough Hall. Some of the diseased chestnut trees had been felled and walkers viewed the Canadian Air Force memorial on Back Lane, Newton.

Next walks: Monday 13th and 27th February. Meet outside the White Bear at 09.30am

LENT MEETINGS - dates for your diary

St Nicholas Church invites you to our popular Lent meetings. We have some well known speakers and challenging topics, all on the theme of 'A Christian response to'.

Visiting Speakers will lead us on a range of topical issues, with time for questions & discussion & a cup of tea/coffee

March 7th	Zen Buddhism	Revd Canon Dr Chris Collingwood, Canon Chancellor of York Minster
March 14 th	Fairness and Justice: Job, Jesus and the mystery of God	Bishop John Thomson of Selby
March 21st	Other world faiths	Bishop David Smith (formerly of Bradford)
March 28th	Fake news, shock news, good news, bad news: politics and citizenship in today's world	- Rev. Dr Greg Hoyland (formerly of York St John University)
April 4th	Trading fairly	Margaret Price, Reader in Forest of Galtres Benefice

ALL IN THE METHODIST CHAPEL STILLINGTON, YORK Tuesdays 7 – 9pm

Village Defibrillator Familiarisation Wednesday 15 February at 7pm

There will be a demonstration of the village Defibrillator in the Village Hall and anyone/everyone who would like to familiarise themselves with the machine is very welcome. There's no need to book – **just come along**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

STILLINGTON SURGERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING FROM 12 NOON ON TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY IF YOU NEED A DOCTOR IN AN EMERGENCY PLEASE RING 03001230762

January Sports and Social Quiz raised £284 for Stillington Under Fives. The winning team were Liz and Barry Wilkinson, Helena Plewes and Penny Abbey. The close runners-up were Janet & David Martin and David Hargreaves. **Friday 3rd February** quiz is in aid of FOSS - Friends of Stillington School.

THE COUNTRYSIDE

I must start with an apology for last month: a senior moment and I misread the deadline without my glasses so the 23rd looked like the 28th. My sincere apologies. The weather remains very mild, even though we have had a few frosts but not very severe and the snow was minimal. The hazel catkins have in many cases shed their pollen and deposited some on our sideboard over Christmas, just to make a bit more dusting for someone! In contrast the snowdrops are only just showing a hint of white, whereas last year there were some flowering in the church yard at Christmas. Why the difference - I don't know.



One foggy morning when I was out shooting I was amused to see two jays flying towards the guns having been driven forwards by the beaters. However they saw their predicament and flew round in a couple of circles before alighting in a thorn tree. After a little while they had seen the safe way of escape and off they flew making their cackly laugh "you can't catch me"! The jay being a member of the crow family is like the rest of the tribe, very intelligent and sharp eyed. Unfortunately they are very serious birdnesters with a love of fresh eggs.

Earlier this week, in the evening mist, there were eight roe deer grazing in our bean field. If they had been eight of my sheep, something would have had to be done pronto. Deer had been on our driveway the morning of the snow and had jumped the three wires on the electric fence round the field.

We have little trouble with them and our fences thank goodness. Sheep don't attempt to jump the wire usually and have a very healthy regard with its potency so long as the battery is fully charged. They do however soon detect a flat battery and an odd brave one will push through.

I am sorry that so many people in the village are telling me that they have few birds in their gardens. I suspect that the bird tables are also the dining areas for the sparrow hawk. Yesterday one flew near some small birds feeding on our path who didn't show a lot of alarm and the hawk didn't seem to be conscious, so flew away. I reckon it must have been well fed and not hungry and the little ones sensed it as well. We have a good number of birds using the feeders: blue and coal tits, occasionally the long tailed tits will come along with a number of finches of one sort or another. We also have a good number of sparrows. It is a mystery that no one seems to understand what has caused the decline in our national sparrow population. I remember that we could not grow spring sown wheat at home in Poppleton for the flocks of sparrows ate the grain before it was harvested and fed on the stools of sheaves before they were dry enough to cart into the Dutch Barn ready for threshing in the winter months. We have and have had more tree sparrows than house sparrows which is rather strange as the house sparrow is by far the most numerous of the two usually. The sparrow was on the endangered list a few years back and maybe still is.

A fine male bullfinch was about recently with its bright red breast, looking splendid in a bit of sunshine. Over the last couple of weeks we have seen a pair of little egrets about. They are pure white with black legs and beaks and are like herons in shape though somewhat smaller. Little egrets are extending their territories in recent times, being common in Mediterranean countries. They will nest with other members of the heron family in groups in the tops of trees, on a platform of twigs.

The days are lengthening, the birds are beginning to sing, shoots are appearing in the garden, but will all this continue or will the weather change and put all this on hold? Watch and see.

Parish Council Notes

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4th January 2017 in STILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Easingwold Library – A further meeting is to be held on 10th January when it is expected that dates for the training of the Volunteers will be available

St Nicholas Church Yard Stillington - Work has started on the repair of the Headstones and Gravestones. Completion will depend on the weather

White Fencing Posts and Railings - Work is continuing with replacement to fence. To date 7-fence posts have been replaced. A village resident has volunteered to paint the new Fence posts. It was agreed to accept the kind offer.

Community Emergency Plan - It was agreed to have a co-ordinator as recommended. A note would be placed in Stillington News asking for a volunteer.

One- way system South Back Lane - No further information on this item was available.

Village Development Fund (Community Infrastructure Levy -

CIL) - The CIL access software is still not available.

Precept 2017/2018 - It was agreed to seek a precept of £7500 for the Financial Year 2017/2018.

Community Payback Scheme (Formally known as Probation Community Service) - After discussion it was decided that no immediate work was evident. This item would be left on the Agenda to discuss future work i.e. Clearing paths, litter picking etc.

Stillington & Farlington WI

At our January meeting we all welcomed Ron and Diana Mitchinson, We learnt about their travels around India. Ron started working in India in the sixties and loved the country so much he wanted to show Diana. Diana agreed to go with him on one condition, that was to not go anywhere that Ron had gone before. They started their trip in Delhi which is mostly mongul or Muslim. We saw many photographs of beautiful places such as the Humayans Tomb which was a precursor to the Taj Mahal, as well as the Taj Mahal. Ron explained about Jaipur being a colourful pink city, as most of the buildings are pink through to salmon coloured. Jaipur was the first planned city of India and it was painted pink as this is the colour of hospitality. Diana showed us a photo of a silver Urn of Holy Water, it is five foot two inches tall, weighs 54 stone and holds 880 gallons of water. Imagine casting that! We saw many photographs of other places and lots of colours like the mosaics and the Saris. While Ron and Diana were in India, Ron had a suit made in 24 hours! and modelled it for us on the night. We all had a very interesting evening: a big thank you to Ron and Diana.

In February we will be having a workshop evening. Everyone will get to make a needle felted flower. It would be wonderful if we had more ladies to join us but if you fancy it, could you please let me know as everyone will start with a little kit. I would hate to be out of kits. Our meeting is the second Wednesday in February in the Village Hall. £3, including refreshments.

Two of our ladies went to Huby WI to see a wonderful gentleman who role-played the position of George Hudson, it was brilliant, Thank you Huby WI for inviting us.

Another of our ladies has been learning a new skill of Silk Painting. She painted a picture of an Iris flower onto a Silk Handkerchief.

The Federation offers many courses for everyone to attend and learn new skills.

Finally save the date Saturday 18th March we are having a book sale jointly with Alne Home. Come along for some bargains, also Tea, Coffee and refreshments will be available.

Shirley M

FILM MATINEES – at the Chapel

2.00pm

The next film matinee will be held on
Wednesday 15 February

Including afternoon tea

The film is longer so we thought we'd
have a tea party too.

Approximate finish 5.30pm

VILLAGE LUNCH

White Bear Inn

TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY FROM 12.30PM

£6.50 2 COURSES

£7.50 3 COURSES

ENJOY A GOOD MEAL AND

GOOD COMPANY

Community Emergency Plan

See the Parish Minutes on Page 4

Your village needs volunteers to set up a Community Emergency support team for the residents of Stillington. If you feel you are able to help or would like further information please contact **Bernie Smith** on **810404**

A date for your diary

BOOKSALE

Coffee, tea and cake

Saturday 18 March Stillington Village Hall

10.00am – 12.00pm

In aid of Alne Cheshire Home and Stillington and Farlington WI

Everyone welcome

CHARITY QUIZ White Bear Inn Sunday 26th February 7.30pm

200 Club - January Winners

1st Mr R Fothergill
2nd Mr N Hallam
R.U. Mrs M Linton
R.U. Mrs L Roche
R.U. Mrs S Archer
R.U. Miss P Hope
R.U. Mrs B Milburn
Drawn by "Our Ernie"

GALTRES BRIDGE CLUB

Would you like to play Bridge in a friendly and informal atmosphere? Would you like a break from the norm by playing the Chicago version? We meet every Thursday, September to May at the Galtres Centre in Easingwold starting at 7pm. If you are a regular player, someone who learned to play some time ago, or have completed a teaching course, why not join us.

Unfortunately, we do not have any teaching facilities.

No partner, no problem, call **Yvonne** on **01347 821008** or **Jim** on **01347 824544**

We will do our best to find a partner for you.

Your first two weeks will be free, membership for the remainder of the season will be £5.00 (normally £10.00 for a complete season) plus £1.50 per session attended.

There are small cash prizes issued each week.

In the December issue of the News, we ran the following piece -

What to do with a Telephone Box?

BT plan to withdraw the telephone line and service in the near future. The Parish Council wish to retain the Box as it is a feature in the Village and plan to purchase it. We would like to receive your views and ideas what the Telephone Box can be used for in the future. Please send them to Bob Brown 810543 - E-mail stillingtonbrown@hotmail.com

The Parish Council received little response and perhaps that was due to most of us having other things to concentrate on over Christmas. However, decisions need to be made and your input is needed. Perhaps you see the box as an anachronism and believe the Council should spend our money on other things, or perhaps you have some really positive ideas as to how the box can become part of the village's future. Bob is many things, but not, methinks, a mind reader. So get in touch with him and let him have your input.

ST NICHOLAS _ FLOWER ROTA

12th February Mrs R Bresnen
19th February Mrs B Milburn
26th February Mrs V Everett

CLEANING ROTA

23rd January to 4th February
6th February to 18th February
20th February to 4th March

BRASSES

Mrs J Ingham
Mrs W Walton
Mrs Garrett
Mr B Handley
Mr & Mrs J Ratcliffe
Mr Garrett

FEBRUARY VILLAGE DIARY

(VH = events at the Village Hall)

Wed	1	Pool A v Horseshoe D B v Old Black Bull (away) Parish Council 7.30pm VH
Thurs	2	Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Fri	3	Quiz 8.00pm
Sat	4	U13 football 9.30-11.00am Dominoes 8.30pm
Mon	6	Uphol'y/Furnishings 10.00-1.00pm Primetime 1.30-3.30pm Dominoes 5&3s v Blacksmiths 8.30pm VH Committee 7.00pm VH
Tues	7	Indoor bowls 2.00pm VH
Wed	8	Pool A v Highwayman (away) B v Commercial WI 7.15pm VH
Thurs	9	Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Sat	11	U13 football 9.30-11.00am Dominoes 8.30pm
Sun	12	Ladies squash 5.00pm
Mon	13	Uphol'y/Furnishings 10.00-1.00pm Primetime 1.30-3.30pm Dominoes v Angel (away) 8.30pm
Tues	14	Indoor bowls 2.00pm VH
Wed	15	Pool A v Commercial O Boys Defibrillator demo 7.00pm VH
Thurs	16	Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Sat	18	U13 football 9.30-11.00am Dominoes 8.30pm Bowls Club Pie & peas supper
Mon	20	Uphol'y/Furnishings 10.00-1.00pm Primetime 1.30-3.30pm Dominoes 5&3s v Black Horse 8.30pm
Tues	21	S&SC committee meeting 8.00pm Indoor bowls 2.00pm VH
Wed	22	Pool teams KO semi final Garden Club 7.30pm VH
Thurs	23	Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm VH
Sat	25	U13 football 9.30-11.00am Dominoes 8.30pm
Mon	27	Dominoes 5&3s v Station 8.30pm
Tues	28	Indoor bowls 2.00pm VH Bowls match 7.00pm VH
MARCH		
Wed	1	Parish Council 7.30pm VH
Thurs	2	Martial Arts 5.15-8.15pm VH

St Nicholas

Priest in charge	Canon Robert Law	810940
Church Wardens	Muriel Law	810484
	Janet Martin	822981
	Email: jessie.jm158@gmail.com	

February 5 th	Morning Worship at 9.30	
February 9 th	Thursday, morning prayer at 9 am	
February 12 th	Holy Communion at 9.30 am	
February 16 th	Thursday, morning prayer at 9 am	
February 19 th	Benefice Service at Sutton on the Forest at 10.30 am	
February 23 rd	Thursday, morning prayer at 9 am	
February 26 th	Holy Communion at 9.30 am	

Methodist Chapel

Minister	Rev Elizabeth Cushion	821460
Stewards	Robin Jackson	810250
	Bob Brown	810543
	Yvonne Murphy	811544

February 5	Bible study	10.30am
	No evening service	
February 12	Evening service with Communion	6.30pm
February 19	Villages together service at Huby	4.00pm
February 26	Acomb Circuit service for the beginning of Lent	"Making a difference" 3.00pm

St Leonard Farlington

Church Wardens	Louise Clark	811626
	Sally Downing	878745

No details received

St Mary Marton

Services in Celtic Tradition

Church Warden	Sally Coomer	
	Email: sally@scoomer.freeserve.co.uk	
5 th February	Celtic Eucharist	6.00pm
19 th February	Celtic Evening Worship	6.00pm

St John the Evangelist RC Easingwold

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

PANCAKES – at the Chapel

Sweet and savoury, tea and coffee

Saturday 25 February 11.30am – 1.30pm

In aid of Stillington Methodist Chapel and St Nicholas

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

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