

# Stillington News

Issue 307

www.stillingtonvillage.org

August 2020

## Stillington Post Office & Stores

*Owned by the community. Run by volunteers.*

### Thanks to all our staff and volunteers through the lockdown.

On behalf of Stillington village shop and Post office I want to thank all our staff and volunteers who have worked in and for the shop over the last few months. Over 100 people have been involved in one way or another - on the counters, behind the scenes, delivering to isolating customers - absolutely amazing. With all your help we have been able to keep this valuable village service open and thriving. Thank you.

M Price

### St Nicholas Parish Church The Church is open Sundays 10am - 12 noon

*For private prayer  
and for worship on some Sundays*

### Wednesdays 2 - 4pm

*For private prayer*

**All are welcome**

Please stay safe and follow the Coronavirus rules.

Remember 2 metre social distancing;  
except for people from the same household

Use the hand sanitiser provided  
on entering the church and on leaving

### Objects Of Interest No 2.

Each month we will show an object of interest in the Stillington area.

An extract from Rudyard Kipling's poem, The Elephant's Child.

"I keep six honest-serving men:

(They taught me all I knew)

Their names are What and Where and When

And How and Why and Who."



#### Questions:

**What** does the motto mean?

**Why** was the plaque moved?

**When** was it moved?

**How** did it get to its present position?

**Where** is this plaque now?

**Whose** family did it belong to?

#### Answers:

**What** is the Motto? To be rather than to appear to be.

**Why** Moved? Stillington Hall was demolished.

**When** moved? Late 1960's

**How** moved? By the grandparents of the present owner.

**Where** now? On the wall of Mossy Terrace on Main Street

**Who** owned it originally? The Croft family.

Robert Churton

Please email contributions for the **September** issue to [news@stillingtonvillage.org](mailto:news@stillingtonvillage.org) by  
**Wednesday 19th August**

## Speed Watchers Required

During the Pandemic period, the Community Speed Watch Group was suspended. Permission to begin operating again has now been received and speed watch sessions will begin operating again shortly.

The Speed Watch Group has several vacancies available. If you would like to become part of this small group of people and assist with monitoring the speed of vehicles that pass through our village please contact the Parish Clerk for further information on: **810285** or at [stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com](mailto:stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com)

**Malcolm Rowe**

**Community Speed Watch Group Leader**

### **BATA HEATING OIL**

If you require a delivery of oil in **SEPTEMBER**, please let **Maureen Linton** know by

**TUESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

email preferred:  
[minsteryork@me.com](mailto:minsteryork@me.com)  
or call  
**810082**

**Minimum order is  
500 litres.**

### **Stillington Grass Cutting**

Stillington Parish Council is inviting tenders in August to quote for the grass cutting and strimming within the Parish, for the years 2021-2025. Any parties interested please contact the Parish Clerk.

Mrs Mary Midgley  
Sunnybank  
High Street  
Stillington  
York  
YO61 1LF  
01347810285  
[stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com](mailto:stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com)

### **Stillington Parish Council**

We now have two vacancies for the parish council.

Anyone wishing to join and help with decisions made about the village please contact:

**Mary Midgley  
01347810285**

[stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com](mailto:stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com)

You could also join our Zoom meeting on

**Wednesday 5th August 7pm**

**Id: 820 5336 1896**

**Password: 8wgpnk**

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

## Stillington Gardening Club News

### **The Annual Show**

Sadly the show cannot take place this year because of the Covid virus. But instead, undaunted, we are planning a "Garden Photograph Competition".

We invite all members to send in up to two photographs of a plant, vegetable or a general shot of your garden. When we next meet in the Village Hall the photographs will be on display and there may even be some prizes.

Please send your photograph(s) by email to [churton234@btinternet.com](mailto:churton234@btinternet.com) or drop your photograph in at **Sweethope, North Back Lane**. Please put your name & tel no. on the back of the photograph and send it in by the end of August.

### **The programme for 2020/2021**

It is hoped that by late September we are able to meet in the Village Hall. We restart the autumn season of talks on the 30<sup>th</sup> September with "**The Cutting Garden**" by **Sally Pickering**. Your committee looks forward to seeing you all at the first meeting.

### **The Winners Club**

What is this? A bit of fun and a fundraiser. Any member can buy a number(s) of tickets for £10 each. The ticket will be the name of your favourite flower or vegetable plant - as we are the gardening club! Each ticket/name will go into a draw at each of our 7 speakers evenings, Christmas Party and AGM. So, 9 chances to win, good odds! There will also be a draw at each of our meetings, with one prize of £15 and a second of £5 drawn each time. If enough numbers are sold the Club will make a little profit.

Tickets/names can be bought from the Treasurer. **Please contact Robert on 810513 for details** or email - [chuton234@btinternet.com](mailto:chuton234@btinternet.com)

### **Membership Cards**

If you have not received your 2020/21 membership cards **please contact Nigel Marsh on 810897**.

### **Gardening Tips for August**

1. Prune Wisteria.
2. Don't delay summer pruning fruits as restricted forms.
3. Deadhead flowering plants regularly
4. Watering - particularly containers and new plants, preferably with stored rainwater
5. Collect seed from garden plants.
6. Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables as they become ready.
7. Continue cutting out old fruited canes on raspberries.
8. Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners.
9. Keep ponds and water features topped up.
10. Feed the soil with green manures.

**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\***

## Countryside Notes

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July, another fine but cloudy day that has seen some combine harvesters working, always an exciting time when the success or failure becomes fully known. This harvest is being approached with some timidity as the weather has been against a heavy yielding harvest. There will be no grain where there have been no plants as a result of waterlogging through the winter months and the recovery of the survivors of the wet was hampered by the drought. However, the rain did come eventually and will have done a good job. The other worry is where will the price of grain be in this economic turmoil and Brexit for the new year. Enough, but you need to know for it will impact on our food; supply and demand are no longer major drivers of the markets.

We have had a lot of bird visitors since last I wrote: a Heron glided low over the house and spread its feathers to land on the pond. It looked really huge because we saw it from a different angle. This reminded me of when my mother went brambling after bringing the harvest drinks to where we were stooking the sheaves of corn to dry. Mother picking fruit on an overgrown hedge approaching a small pond, where a Heron suddenly took to flight in its silent manner and the ghostly bird really startled her. A stook consists of five sheaves leaned in a row against another five, the sheaves were laid as the binder had dropped them as it progressed round the field. A few days after the Heron, an Egret paid us a visit, the first seen at the pond by us. On the lawn we have had a Grey Wagtail along with some young birds. We often get Grey Wagtails in the early spring and autumn, but I have not known them nest around the farm. Spotted Flycatchers have been busy catching beaks full of flies (like Puffins) and carrying them to their nest. Last week I thought the early Honeysuckle berries were ripening and would soon be visited by Warblers. Next day some were there and the day after a fine Blackcap Warbler was feasting, then the family came as has happened for a few years. The Blackcap is a fine songster with a good range of notes and its singing has been mistaken for that of a Nightingale on occasion as they can sing well into the early night. However, the crowning glory was one morning at breakfast time when a Kingfisher came and sat on a clothes prop and then on the washing line for a few precious minutes. Yesterday we had Buzzards about that were rather noisy but, with less volume, some young birds were replying, so I reckon that this was flying instruction for a fledgling family.

Today, I had a good look at the large white flowers of the Great Bindweed. The flowers, composed in a trumpet shape with five attached petals with a stripe on each petal, are a thing of beauty. Its cousin, Morning Glory, which is often sky blue or purple, with the same stripe that also enhances other bindweeds, is a fine but tender garden flower although banned as a pernicious weed in New Zealand. There are many flowers by the roadside now; good patches of Cranesbill and sweet-smelling Meadow-Sweet along with Willow Herb in its magenta purple and many more to ease the tedium of travel. So, keep looking.

R&M



## Stillington School Fond Farewells, Bright Futures

The last day of any school year is always a mix of emotions, but perhaps never more so for Stillington School than this year! Who could possibly have imagined when we started back in September 2019 just how events would unfold; it truly has been a roller-coaster of a year!

Last Thursday we had a wonderful sunny, and socially distanced, Leavers Celebration, bidding a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupil, who did us all proud – embracing the unusual situation with a positivity, confidence and resilience that will stand her in good stead as she moves on to Easingwold Outwood.

We also said goodbye to Mr Robinson, who has been Headteacher at Stillington for the past five terms, leading the school through the strangest and most challenging period in recent times. Governors, staff and parents alike expressed their thanks for his commitment to the school, and wished him every success in his next post.

As Chair of Governors, I would like to say how extremely proud I am of the whole Stillington School ‘family’ for what we have managed to accomplish during the past year. I am really looking forward to our brighter future, building on those achievements as we begin our formal collaboration with Foston and Terrington Federation.

In September we will be welcoming to Stillington: Executive Headteacher Mrs Sarah Moore, and Assistant Headteacher Miss Katie Stringer, along with two new teachers, Mrs Catherine Hunter, who will be teaching our older children, and Mrs Philippa Scaife, who will be joining Mrs Speake in the Infant class.

Over the summer, as we push forwards towards our vision for the future, our learning environments will be undergoing something of a transformation - we are investing in the school’s future with a long overdue refurbishment and redecoration project to facilitate the provision of engaging a high-quality learning environment for our children. This is just one of the exciting improvement projects planned, which aim to ensure that Stillington has a village school that the whole community can be proud of.

**Corinne Cross**  
Chair of Governors

## CHURCH SERVICES

### St Nicholas, Stillington

**Priest:** Revd Stephen Whiting 810251  
**Church Wardens:** Muriel Law 810484  
muriellaw1@gmail.com  
Janet Martin 822981  
jessie.jm158@gmail.com

**Sun 2nd** Holy Communion 10am  
**Sun 16th** Morning Worship 10am  
**Sun 30th** Ecumenical Morning  
Worship 10am

#### 200 Club

1st Mrs A Cobb - £50  
2nd Mrs W Heap,  
3rd Mrs C Pick,  
3rd Mr M Turvey.  
Drawn by "our Ernie"

### Methodist Chapel

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

The recent rain was welcomed by the chapel garden which continues to flower well thanks to Gareth. Please feel free to sit and enjoy the garden in all its glory

The chapel is not open yet while we await instructions from our methodist circuit. We are pleased that St Nicholas will be open for prayer on **Thursdays 10am-12pm and Sundays 2-4pm**. Everyone will be welcome.

We are streaming services each Sunday please contact Rev. Elizabeth or Robin for details. **If you have a prayer request please contact Rev Elizabeth or Robin.**

We wish everybody well at this difficult time, let us all try to keep in touch, a chat on the phone can make all the difference to the day.

Dear friends

I don't think I am alone in forgetting what day of the week it is. Time has done funny things over the last 3 months and it is very easy to get forgetful when out of routine. It is a good excuse for doing strange things, and it has been mentioned about lockdown madness. Actually, I was discussing it with the toaster this morning. As time goes on there is increasing frustration with growing hair, shouting from a distance and inability to do certain things. We are lucky with where we live and the weather we have had, but it must be very difficult for those with children or who live in small houses with no green spaces. Perhaps this week we could think of those who are facing stress and mental turmoil because of the current pressures. Jesus knew and spoke about the importance of both physical and spiritual well-being. We need to remember to do things that we enjoy and which keep us grounded. So take care and stay sane, and hope your week goes well. Now, off to put the washing in the kettle ....

With blessings, Elizabeth

### St Leonard's, Farlington

**Priest:** Revd Stephen Whiting  
810251  
**Church Wardens:** Sally Wright 878745  
Richard Haste 878581  
richardhaste@btinternet.com

It was lovely to re-open the church at the beginning of July and come together for two services.

In August we should be reverting to our usual pattern of services on the **2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 11.15am**. Thus, services planned at the time of writing will be :

**Sun 9th** Shortened Matins (BCP) 11.15am  
**Sun 23rd** Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am

**Other than for services, the church will continue to be open every Tuesday and Saturday between 10am and 4.30pm for private prayer and contemplation.** The Churchyard continues to be open at all times for you to visit and spend some 'quiet time.'

### St Mary's Marton Church

**Contacts:** Caroline Hunt 878242  
Sue Whiting 810251

Marton Church continues to be open for personal prayer and quietness on **Thursdays (9am-12noon) and Sundays (2-5pm)**.

The size of the church means that 2m social distancing really would limit us to a very small congregation, so we are not yet opening for Sunday services. The church is therefore currently closed to the public at all other times. The churchyard however, is always open and boasts a beautiful wildflower meadow where you can sit and just 'be'.

There are some lovely photos of the thriving wildlife here: [facebook.com/martonchurch](https://www.facebook.com/martonchurch) and [achurchnearyou.com/church/18888](https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18888)

## Weather Report - July

### Rainfall

The second half of June was a little less wet than the first half, so the monthly total, at 77.5mm, was only about 10% higher than the fifteen-year average.

Though an average can conceal a wide variation. In June 2006, for instance, it was 16mm and then in 2007, 162mm.

July so far has had average rainfall, 33mm up to the 16th.

### Temperature

The start of June saw a sudden drop of temperature, from 24.6°C on the 2nd to 13.4°C on the 3rd. There followed ten days of daytime maxima in the low teens, before they moved back into the low twenties towards the middle of the month. By the 24th it had reached 28.5°C, before falling dramatically again, to 15.1°C, by the end of the month. Not a lot of sunshine in June. The solar panels delivered 405kWh, about the same as in 2017 and 2019, but a lot less than in 2018. Remember the hot summer?

So far, July has not been hot. Temperatures failed to reach the 20's until half-way through the month, with a maximum of 22.9 on the 16th. Overnight temperatures have been mainly in double figures, though it fell to 7.9° on the 11th/12th.

MT

