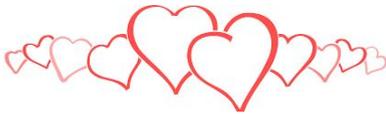


# Stillington News

Issue 301

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

February 2020



## Film Nights at the Village Hall

Saturday February 15<sup>th</sup>  
7pm for a 7.30pm start

This month we are celebrating Valentine's Day with a film based on a best selling book.

An author investigates a club in the Channel Islands and finds the man of her dreams.

**Entry by a suggested £3 donation.**

Locally produced cider and locally brewed beer and ale for sale along with wine and soft drinks.

To join our email list contact:

[info@thevillagehallstillington.org](mailto:info@thevillagehallstillington.org)

**HEART &  
CRAFT**

– FREE art group for over 50s –  
Meets again at the Village Hall  
on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February**  
**from 10am – 12 noon**  
when the activity on offer will be  
MOSAICS

## The Fellowship Lunch

### White Bear Inn

**Tuesday 18th February**

Arrival between 12-1pm

**1 Course - £8.50**

**2 Courses - £10.50**

**3 Courses - £12.50**

**Or a Starter & Dessert - £ 8.50**

Come along and enjoy  
good food and good  
company

## Local Food and Drink Fair

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

In the Village Hall

**10am-2pm**

Stallholders will be selling Gin, Beer and Fruit Juice.  
Artisan Bread; bespoke cakes; Deli items and Pies;  
Organic dairy, meat and veg; preserves and wood-fired  
bakery items.

Refreshments made locally will be served throughout the  
event

**The Big Brunch served from 10am-12pm**

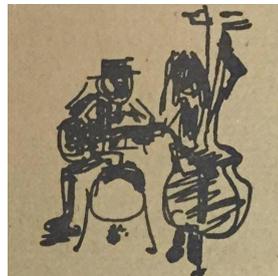
Sausage/bacon sandwiches, croissants and a healthy  
option

**Time for Tea served**

**12pm-2pm**

Tea, scones and cake

Find out more at: [thevillagehallstillington.org](http://thevillagehallstillington.org)



**The**

**Peas**

## Stillington Village Hall

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm**

**Adults £10, under 18s £5**

**The Peas** take your guilty pop pleasures  
from the 80s and 90s and give them a classy rework.  
From Rick Astley to The Spice Girls their set list could  
make you shudder, but with a change of chords and a  
bluegrassy, rock'n'roll, acoustic beat  
the songs feel like new.

Musically intelligent, high tempo, whirling energy.

Acoustic guitar, double bass, foot drums, kazoos,  
beatboxing, mouth trumpets – and only two people.

You will leave not too sure of what you have witnessed,  
but feeling all the better for it.

Round up friends, come as a group,  
you might even want to get up and dance!

Usual bar and raffle.

**Tickets are available from the Village Stores and also  
on-line at [ruralarts.org](http://ruralarts.org)**

### Pancakes at Stillington Methodist Church

Sweet and Savoury

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

**11-30 - 1.30**

Tea and Coffee

In Aid of Stillington  
Methodist Church and St  
Nicholas Church

## STILLINGTON GARDENING CLUB Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February - 7.30 pm

Our speaker for February will  
be Stella Exley from Hare  
Spring Cottage Plants Alne,  
who comes highly  
recommended. A Chelsea  
flower show exhibitor, Stella is  
a very knowledgeable plants  
woman and holds the national  
collection of Camassia and  
Sidalcea so we can expect an  
interesting and enjoyable  
evening. There will also be  
perennials available to  
purchase.

## Book Sale

**Alne Hall**

**and the**

**WI**

are holding a book sale in  
the village hall on

**Saturday 8th March.**

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

## VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – early May Day Bank

**Holiday Friday 8th May**  
Stillington celebrated VE Day 50th Anniversary in 1995 with a weekend of events including a comprehensive WW 11 exhibition of artefacts in the Primary School. Time has moved on and events have recently been held to commemorate the WW1 centenary in 2018 and 2019. Should we in Stillington mark the VE 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year?

**If you have any ideas or interest in the occasion, please come to an open meeting on Tuesday 4th February at 7.00pm – upstairs at the Village Shop.**

## Neighbourhood Watch

Beware of all scams – be it by telephone, computer, door callers or by post. The fraudsters can be very plausible and people of all ages and occupations are losing money in different ways. Never disclose any personal or banking details. Catalytic converters are being stolen for their metal value. Older design cars appear to be more vulnerable. Advice is to garage your car whenever possible: park in well-lit busy areas; look out for people working under cars; if the car's high risk consider marking the metal shell of the converter with a unique mark.

**Please report any suspicious persons or vehicles to 101 and in emergency or danger to your safety dial 999.**

## Silver Jubilee Celebrations



*(The Stillington News Team from left to right: Emma Johnson, Brenda Milburn, Tracy Sinclair and Dick Tregoe)*

The Stillington News team would like to thank ‘new friends and old’ who were able to join us on Saturday 11th January for the 25th anniversary celebration of the Stillington News. It was wonderful to meet all of you and to put some faces to the names we regularly receive contributions from.



The boards showcasing the front pages of some of the momentous occasions that have taken place in Stillington over the years, as well as an A3 publication of the very first issue of the Stillington News, will be available to view upstairs in the Stillington Post Office and shop for a limited duration.

**The Stillington News has changed little over the last 25 years. It is still a FREE newsletter and continues to promote village events and activities. It is delivered to all homes within Stillington by a wonderful team of volunteers, whatever the weather.**

**Those who have undertaken the role of editor from past to present are:**

**Brenda Milburn 1995 - 2009; Howard Williams 2009 - 2016 (with co-editors Hazel Ratcliffe to 2015 and Sue Pace to 2016); Sue Pace and Chris Potter 2016 - 2017 and Emma Johnson & Tracy Sinclair 2017 to present.**

**If you would like to contact the current editors please do so using the Stillington News email.**

## Stillington and Farlington WI

On Wednesday 8th January the Stillington and Farlington WI and guests gathered to hear about "A voyage through the China Sea", a journey aboard the world's only ocean liner (the rest are cruise ships) Queen Mary II. It started in Hong Kong where some tower blocks are so tall that they are in the clouds. The liner sailed through part of the Yellow Sea - so named because the water of the Yellow River colours the sea water due to the muddy silt it carries.

Next came Shanghai where "dragons" on the roofs guard buildings against evil spirits. An excursion from the port to the Great Wall was taken. This is a fantastic structure over 21,000km long, built in sections by various dynasties over many years. Then off to a Japanese island and then South Korea. What a memorable journey! Thank you to Eveth and Andrew for sharing it with us.

**On Wednesday 12th February we will be finding out about the work done in Gilling East by Autism Plus, growing plants, making chocolate and other crafts.**

**Don't miss the book sale in aid of Alne Hall, Stillington Village Hall, Saturday March 7th.**

AH

## Quizzes at the Sports and Social Club

January quiz raised £289 for the Play Area being part of the Playing Fields Association. Winning team was Brenda Milburn, Henry Morgan, Margaret Price and Angela Hawker. Close Runners-Up were Janet and David Martin with Kathy & Alan Berry. February Quiz will be for the Bowling Club.

**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\***

## Minutes of January's Parish Council Meeting

### Stillington Pond:

Phil Lyth from Yorkshire Farming and Wildlife Partnership has agreed to visit and complete a survey. Costings for the visit, survey and report with a schedule of works will be approximately £400+VAT.

### New Lamp Post:

Awaiting decision from NYCC for the cost of installing a new lamp post at the junction of the Village Hall and the B1363 road.

### Progress Report from School Liaison Officer:

A letter of support for Stillington school has been sent to Mr Andrew Dixon, Corporate Director for the Children and Young People's Services, from the Stillington Parish Council.

### Village Path:

Work will commence in January, weather permitting, to remove turf from the footpaths in Parkfield snicket along Main street.

### Bank Holiday Date Change:

For the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day Bank Holiday will move from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

### Events:

A local food event is to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February from 10am to 12 noon.

### Warm up Hambleton:

Would you like a warmer home? For more information contact environmental health officers, Emma Gallafant:

Tel: 01609768680 or email [emma.gallafant@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:emma.gallafant@hambleton.gov.uk) or Joy Swithenbank

Tel: 01609767088 or email [joy.swithenbank@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:joy.swithenbank@hambleton.gov.uk) More details can also be found on the hambleton district council website. [hambleton.gov.uk](http://hambleton.gov.uk)

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February in Stillington Village Hall - 7.30pm;** anyone is welcome to attend.

There is still a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. For anyone interested in seeing what this role might entail, you are welcome to attend the next meeting.

## Stillington Wanderers

Last walk for 2019 was close to home: a Stearsby and Brandsby circuit with a perfect example of a "drumlin" (a whale shaped hill formed by glacial action) off Goal Lane; past Brandsby Hall & the ice house near the church.



First 2020 walk was from Thirsk, Cod Beck car park, past St Mary's Church; alongside the race course to train-spotting from Thirsk station bridge; back over the disused rail line which once ended in the current "Tesco car park"; past the advancing Sowerby housing development and onto Sowerby Flatts part of which was bought by "Mrs Pomfrey" of James Herriot fame to retain the open land.

**Next walks: Monday 10th and 24th February. Meet outside the White Bear at 9.30am**

## STILLINGTON GARDENING CLUB

The very inexpensive annual subscription to the Gardening Club of £7 per season enables you to hear six expert speakers on a variety of garden subjects, at the gardening club's monthly meeting, every third Wednesday at 7.30pm. The excellent discount on all seeds will pay for your membership.

This season's annual bulk buy seed order was from Dobies of Paignton, Devon with a 40% discount on all vegetables and flowers. Once again, the most popular vegetable seeds are still Boltardy Beetroot, costing £1.49 for 370 seeds (in 1996, 69p for 370 seeds less discount) with Gardeners Delight Tomatoes running a close second. In the flower section, the most bought packets were Cosmos Dwarf Sensation with Bush Blue Lobelia in second place.

### February Tips for the Garden:

- Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
- Chit potato tubers
- Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
- Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'
- Prune *Wisteria*
- Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter, remove dead grass from evergreen grasses

## Polite Notice

We have once again received a request to remind all dog walkers to please clean up their dog's poo. This time the report was from North Back Lane where even the postman is reporting it to residents! **Please can all dog walkers behave more responsibly. When out walking your dog, pick up and properly dispose of your dog's poo**

## RECYCLING POTATO CRISP PACKETS

DO YOU WANT TO  
RECYCLE MORE ?

St Nicholas Church is collecting Potato Crisp Packets contributions can be left in the box at the back of the church. These are taken to St Nicholas Field Environmental Centre in York who sell them on to a company who are able to recycle the metal and plastic. Last year all their recycling earned them **£4,500** for their environmental education work.

But please note -  
**ONLY PACKETS WHICH  
HAVE CONTAINED  
POTATO CRISPS CAN BE  
RECYCLED -**

anything else must go in the black bin.

## POPPY APPEAL 2019

The total sum collected for the November Poppy Appeal 2019 was **£2780.36**. This includes Stillington, (with £224.95 collected in the Shop and PO: thank you to all customers) Sutton on the Forest, Huby and Farlington. **Thanks to the Poppy Appeal Organisers Tim and Belinda Wells and the local poppy sellers.**

**Malcolm Watson**

## Countryside Notes

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January. It has been a good sunny day following a slight frost. Yesterday was another wet day; the land is very wet still, however, last week, we had a few dry days with a drying breeze and we were able to get the plough going with the hopes of sowing wheat the next day but that proved another wet day. It is frustrating to say the least. The weather remains very mild indeed with no frost of any consequence. Hence, we have summer flowers in January. There was a plant of Cow Parsley in bloom in the hedge today; this plant also named Queen Anne's Lace because of its delicate and intricate flowers that really are not tough like so many of the Umbelliferous family, a Buttercup in the church yard, yellow but rather greeny-yellow through lack of sunshine, several bright eyed Daisies, along with others. This mild weather has started the birds to think about spring: Robins are establishing territories by song and fighting; Rooks were visiting their last year's nests at the beginning of January and starting to make repairs and, earlier this week, Grey Partridges were very noisy as they were being chased away from their family groups to find a mate. They are very good at making family ties and are very good parents, being fearless in their bringing up of their families. We have a family of Long Tailed Tits at the bird feeder, where we have counted nine at one time. They surely will soon pair as they can make their wonderful round nests of moss and spiders' web early in spring, but for the present they will be sleeping in last year's nest. A covey of French or Red Legged Partridges walked through the garden round about Christmas; they have wonderful colouring, especially on their undersides that are powder blue and light buff extending to their lower neck. They are not a true Partridge according to ornithologists and are not as family orientated as the Greys.

We were very fortunate a fortnight ago to have a male Goosander pay our pond a brief visit. Goosanders belong to the Sawbill tribe of ducks. They are the biggest of our ducks being 26 inches as opposed to 24 inches for Mallards. They are a flat bird both in the water and in flight. The drake was predominantly white with a greeny black head and stripes on the top of its back. The Sawbills have teeth along the side of their beak to hold fish. These ducks, along with Red-Breasted Merganser found further north and the smaller migrant Smew are the three sawbills to be found in Britain. All live on fish, their flat bodies helping them swim under water and pursue their prey. They nest in rabbit holes or hollow trees often away from water.

The woods look rather black if you do not look too closely. However, if you take notice on a brighter day there is an amazing variety of colour that will change as leaf and flower buds develop. Recently, a picture painted by Turner was on TV which showed a ship in full sail beneath a lot of sky; the narrator said that there were 42 shades of colour in that sky, only seen by those who really look! So, enjoy your more concentrated looking as the days lengthen.

**R&M**

## Stillington Community Primary School-UPDATE

In January's Stillington News, I reported that the Governors were investigating the potential for future partnership arrangements for Stillington School. I am pleased to be able to share with you that we are currently working with the Local Authority and Foston and Terrington Church of England Federation to secure arrangements for school-to-school support for the remainder of the academic year, with a view to future collaboration.

The Governors believe this is the way forward for sustaining small rural schools, which play such a vital role in their communities. The Chair of Governors at Foston and Terrington has written to their parents, "We feel this is an exciting and positive development for all 3 schools."

The Local Authority will not be looking to commence consultation on closure as long as matters progress positively. The Regional Schools Commissioner is now considering the school's position; we anticipate a response in the next week or so.

**Corinne Cross**  
Chair of Governors

### Parish Survey and 2020 Parish Plan Progress

You will find a draft Parish Plan within this newsletter. Please send comments and any ideas for action to Parish Clerk, Mary Midgley. Once finalised, the Plan will be adopted by the Parish Council.

## Village Hall Usage

### February

Sat	1st	“The Renames”	7.30pm
Mon	3rd	Prime Time	2-4pm
Tues	4th	Indoor Bowls	2pm
Weds	5th	Parish Council	7.30 pm
Tues	6th	Table Tennis	10am - 12pm
Sat	8th	Local Food Day	10am - 3pm
Mon	10th	Prime Time	2-4pm
Tues	11th	Craft Group	10am-12pm
		Indoor Bowls	2pm
		Bowls Match	7pm
Weds	12th	WI	7.15pm
Thurs	13th	Table Tennis	10am - 12pm
Sat	15th	Film Night	7.30pm
Mon	17th	Prime Time	2-4pm
Tues	18th	Craft Group	10am - 12pm
		Indoor Bowls	2pm
Thurs	20th	“Heart & Craft”	10am - 12pm
Mon	24th	Prime Time	2-4pm
Tues	25th	Craft Group	10am - 12pm
		Indoor Bowls	2pm
		Bowls Match	7.30pm
Weds	26th	Gardening Club	7.30pm
Thurs	27th	Table Tennis	10am - 12pm

## Weather Report - January

### Rainfall

Rainfall in December, at 66mm, was about average. However, the annual total for 2019, at 713mm, was the highest since the very wet year of 2012, when the annual total exceeded 1000mm.

The first half of January, with 30mm, has been close to the average but it has fallen very unevenly. A week of no rain was followed by half an inch in a day.

### Temperature

There was no prospect of a white Christmas, with December being generally mild. Overnight we did have negative readings on a couple of nights, namely the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>. On the other hand, daytime temperatures reached double figures on half a dozen occasions.

The first half of January has followed suit, generally mild with the first hard frost of the winter not occurring until the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

MT

## Stillington Sports and Social Club

### February

Sat	1st	Dominoes	Home	8.30pm
Mon	3rd	Sewing & Upholstery Class		10am-1pm
		Dominoes 5s & 3s v Old Black Bull	Away	
Tues	4th	St Cuthbert's Indoor Bowls v Welburn - Semi-final	Home	
Weds	5th	Pool A v B	Home	
Thurs	6th	St Cuthbert's Social Bowl	Home	2-4pm
Fri	7th	Quiz		8pm
Sat	8th	Dominoes	Home	8.30pm
Sun	9th	Pool Doubles Last 16	Home	
Mon	10th	Sewing & Upholstery Class		10am-1pm
Tues	11th	St Cuthbert's Indoor Bowls v Thornton Dale	Home	
Wed	12th	Pool A v Horseshoe Pool B v Castle	Home	
Fri	14th	St Cuthbert's Bowls St Cuthbert's Bowls v Great Ouseburn	Away	2-4pm
Sat	15th	Dominoes	Home	7pm
Mon	17th	Dominoes 5s & 3s v Mended Drum	Home	8.30pm
Tues	18th	Monthly Committee Meeting		8pm
Wed	19th	Pool Team Knockout	Home	
Fri	21st	St Cuthbert's Bowls	Home	2-4pm
Sat	22nd	Dominoes	Home	8.30pm
Mon	24th	Sewing & Upholstery Class Dominoes 5s & 3s v Angel	Away	10am-1pm 8.30pm
Wed	26th	Pool A v Horseshoe Pool B v Mended Drum	Home	
Fri	28th	St Cuthbert's Bowls	Away	
Sat	29th	Bowling Club Pie and Pea Supper	Home	2-4pm 6pm

### March

Sun	1st	Pool Singles Last 16	Home	
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## Saint Nicholas' Church, Stillington

### Church Electoral Roll Revision

This is to give notice that any changes to the Electoral Church Roll must be made **before 25<sup>th</sup> February** so that the revised roll may be presented to the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020**. Only those on the electoral roll may take part in the meeting.

Everyone on the current roll will be entered on the revised roll unless they give notice to the Electoral Roll Officer before that date. **He may be contacted by telephoning 810473.**

If anyone wishes to be added to the roll, they should fill in the appropriate application form, which may be obtained from the table at the back of the church or by telephoning the Electoral Roll Officer, as above. **Forms must be returned to the Electoral Roll Officer before 25<sup>th</sup> February.**

If you are not sure whether or not you are on the current roll, a copy may be seen in the church porch.

**Michael Turvey, Electoral Roll Officer (January 2020)**

