
Stillington News

Issue 312

www.stillingtonvillage.org

January 2021

Stillington Post Office & Stores

Owned by the community. Run by volunteers.

New Years Day, Friday 1st January
Shop open 7 to 10:30am
Post Office Closed



Happy New Year
From the
Stillington News Team

Please email contributions for the
February issue to
news@stillingtonvillage.org by
Wednesday 20th January

New Year Opening Times At Stillington Surgery

Closed Friday 1 January 2021

Please order your medication in good time, preferably allowing a week. Please do not order more than one month's supply of prescriptions. Email your requests to:
VOYCCG.B82079prescriptions@nhs.net

**Wishing all our patients
a pleasant New Year**

Countryside Notes January 2021

Sunday, 13th December. Another wet, murky, dull morning. The land is well saturated now, and the forecast remains set for similar things this next week. However, winter must have come earlier this year because we had, yesterday, a visit from a pair of Snow Geese. These are usually migrants that have got off course. They were juveniles, pure white with a shawl over their shoulders of grey; when mature they will be as white as snow. They were on a stubble field and became airborne as I entered the field. I had to get the Big Bird Book out to be sure of what I had seen. They could have come from the North Americas or the Arctic Circle. I have had the pleasure of seeing one many years ago, whilst going round my sheep near Storwood, which is situated east of the Derwent Valley Bird Sanctuary, Wheldrake, with the former writer of these notes, the late Geoff Bruce. We walked along the Pocklington Canal and had one of those rare special days: we were accompanied by the sound of Wild Fowl, especially late in the afternoon. We surprised a group of Goosanders on the canal at close quarters, then a little further on a small grass field had the biggest flock of Canada Geese that took us for granted and amongst them was a white goose. We came to the conclusion that it was either a domestic goose or an albino. However, the bird notes in the local paper declared a Snow Goose was with these Canadas and was excited about it. As we walked in the growing dusk back to the car, we saw a Barn Owl quartering the bank of the canal; Geoff said this was the icing on the cake of a very special outing.

Soon after the last set of notes, I heard a sound that is said to be "heard but not seen" in the tops of the trees near the house, as this little sparrow-sized bird has rather 'high minded ways'!. It was a first for me, being a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. I recognised it by a note of song before it started to drum. Drumming is the sound made by the bird solidly pecking a resonant branch of the tree to attract a mate or establish a territory. The little bird can't make the heavy drumming like its cousin the Great Spotted Woodpecker. However, the littlun is more agile and makes 14-16 drums per second, making the sound a bit of a blur. Whereas the Great Spotted can only make 8-10 - or so the book says, I didn't count!! The Lesser has no red marking on its body but has bars of white spots on its sides, whilst its cousin has more overall white spots and a white patch on its upper wing.



Badgers have made an awful mess of some grassland that we have grazed through the autumn, with rooting up the turf to 2 inches or so in concentrated areas. If the field were not so well fenced, I would have been looking for escapee pigs. Whether they were after worms or grubs or perhaps some juicy roots, I don't know. But there will certainly be some restoration work to be done in the spring.

A fortnight ago when the moon was full, there was forecast to be a Fall of Woodcock. I don't know whether there was, but many migrant Woodcock do come to us from the Low Countries (Brexit permitting). There is much still to see as the days lengthen and maybe some surprises for you too.

May 2021 be good and kind to you and may we all be free again.

R & M

Thank You

The editorial team at the Stillington News would like to thank all the local organisations and those individuals who have made generous financial contributions over the course of 2020 towards the running costs of publishing the Stillington News on a monthly basis. Because of the Coronavirus, 2020 has been an extremely difficult year with an immense strain placed on budgets but without your generosity there could be no Stillington News and we are extremely grateful. Thank You.

We would also like to thank Phil and Sue and all those who, following the relevant covid rules, attended a Quiz Night at the White Bear on Sunday 25th October. This raised £70 as a contribution towards the cost of publishing the Stillington News and is very much appreciated.

The Stillington News Editorial Team

Thank You To The Post Office Team In The Village Shop

I would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly at the Village Shop on our behalf. During the last year especially they have always managed to man the tills, keep the shop well stocked and deliver food if needed. They are always helpful and have a big smile on their faces.

The Post Office too is such a benefit and appreciated so much, especially at Christmas when they are extra busy.

Lesley Kemp

Many thanks to the Stillington Post Office staff who have worked so hard for the last month dealing with a huge quantity of parcels of all shapes and sizes. And thank you to all our customers waiting patiently in all weathers for your turn.

MP

Thank you, to so many people who filled 38 shoe boxes for the Samaritans Purse Christmas Child appeal. They have gone around the world to children who do not have anything else this Christmas. Thank you to everyone for their generosity. Lots of happy smiles to greet the boxes packed with toys, school equipment, hats, games, musical instruments etc

MP

Thank You To Everyone Who Has Bought Charity Christmas Cards At The Village Shop

We have raised over £900 from the sale of charity Christmas cards at the village shop, supporting four different charities:

Martin House Hospice for Children	£480
Botton Village (Camp Hill Village Trust)	£148
York Against Cancer	£284
Barnardo's	£54

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this magnificent fund-raising,

MP

Parish Council Meeting

The Council meeting was held via Zoom with Councillors and the Clerk present on Wednesday 2nd of Dec Joined by 2 proposed new councillors as observers. The full minutes can be seen on the council website and on the notice boards.

District Cllrs report

'The making a difference 'grants from H.D.C.have been launched, applications from village organisations can be submitted after 14th Dec.

Speedwatch

The project has been suspended by the authorities due to the pandemic.

Parish maintenance

A survey of the Yew trees in the graveyard is being prepared by the English Tree Company.

The village pond is ongoing with its renovations and the contract has been awarded for the trees around the pond.

Highways

Pathway repairs are ongoing and resurfacing has been carried out on High Street. A decision is still awaited from NYCC regarding installation of a street lamp on the corner opposite the Fish & Chip shop.

Planning

Three planning applications were discussed including a temporary caravan rally site at Sand Lane Huby on the 6th August 2021 and the removal of a farmers hedge in Stillington.

Three applications were granted by HDC Planning : Additional bedrooms, tree works and a Granny Annexe. Awaiting HDC regarding an accessible pathway in front of the school.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 6th January 2021 by Zoom video link. If anyone would like to join the meeting, please contact the Clerk Mrs Midgley 01347 810285.

If you require a delivery of heating oil in

February 2021

please let **Maureen Linton** know by

Wednesday, 20th January, 2021

email preferred: minsteryork@me.com
or 01347 810082

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

Objects Of Interest No 7

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 know).

Their names are:

What and Why and When

And How and Where and Who."



Questions

WHAT does this represent?

Why was the plaque moved?

WHEN was it erected?

HOW did it get to its present position?

WHERE is this?

WHO put it up?

Answers

WHAT? The plaque is for the village's second National School. This was built in 1820 to replace the original school opened c1818.

WHY? An extension was built in 1962 onto the front of the hall where the plaque was located.

WHEN? 1821, though the plaque was repaired/renewed when the Village Hall was opened in 1929.

HOW? It was moved by the Village Hall Management Committee.

WHERE? On the North side of the Village Hall.

WHO? Harry Croft, Lord of the Manor, who donated the land for the school with the encouragement of his uncle Robert Croft, Prebendary of Stillington.



Written by Robert Churton. Researched by Liz Cole

Stillington Gardening Club - January 2021

A very Happy New Year To all our Members

Winners Club

The two lucky winners for December draw were:

1st Prize £15 Ticket 27. Phil Hartle -Butternut Squash

2nd Prize £5 Ticket 1. Pauline Curry - Lily

Quiz Winners

These will be published next month as not known at time of going to print!

Seeds For Sale

Dennis North has the following seeds from Dobies seeds for sale at 50% off

Beetroot Bedfordshire Champion £2.70

Veranda Red F1 Bush Tomato £2.40

Little Sun F1 Yellow Tomato £1.20

Lettuce Mix £1.20

Purple Topped Turnip £1.50

Red Pearl F1 Onions £1.50

January King Cabbage £1.20

Leaf Salad Winter Mix £1.80

Please contact Dennis on 810951 if you want to take advantage of this offer.

January Tips For Your Garden

January is a great time to plan your garden for the year ahead.

Make the most of this quieter time to do the following garden admin from the comfort of your armchair:

10 Top Tips

1. Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch
2. Clean pots and greenhouses ready for spring
3. Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already
4. Disperse worm casts in lawns
5. Inspect stored tubers of *Dahlia*, *Begonia* and *Canna* for rots or drying out
6. Prune apple and pear trees
7. Start forcing rhubarb
8. Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season
9. Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds
10. Make a polythene shelter for outdoor peaches and nectarines, to protect against peach leaf curl

Written by Robert Churton

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

CHURCH SERVICES

St Nicholas, Stillington

Priest: Revd Stephen Whiting 810251

Church

Wardens: Janet Martin 822981

Jessie.jm158@gmail.com

Richard Mapletoft 811854

rmapletoft@outlook.com

Sun 3rd Epiphany

Holy Communion 10am

Weds 6th Prayers for the village 1.30 - 2pm

Weds 13th Prayers for the village 1.30 - 2pm

Sun 17th Morning Worship 10am

Weds 20th Prayers for the village 1.30- 2pm

Weds 27th Prayers for the village 1.30 - 2pm

Sun 31st Ecumenical

Candlemas Celebration 10am

The Church is open for personal prayer every Wednesday 2 - 4pm

Sunday 10 - 12 noon if there is no service

In order to keep us all safe and well during the pandemic everyone entering the church is asked to wear a face covering. You will also be asked to leave your name and contact telephone number in case any track and trace is needed. Please use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the church and follow the one way system.

St Leonard's, Farlington

Priest: Rev Stephen Whiting 810251

Church Wardens: Sally Wright 878745

Richard Haste 878581

richardhaste@btinternet.com

It was sad that we could not have our usual, uplifting Carol Service but the church looked absolutely wonderful 'dressed' for Christmas. Our warmest thanks to the Farlington flower fairies who decorated the church so beautifully.

At the time of writing this we will have two services in January :

Sun 10th Shortened Matins (BCP) 11.15am

Sunday 24th Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am

(No pre-booking is required for either service)

In addition to the services, above, **the church will continue to be open for private prayer and 'quiet time' on Tuesdays and Saturdays between 10.00am – 3.00pm. The churchyard is open at all times.**

We wish everyone a Happy New Year with the hope of restrictions easing as the year progresses.

Weather Report - December 2020

Rainfall

The latter part of November had even less rain than the first half, so that the monthly total, of 32mm, was less than half the average figure.

December, so far, has been wet. Rainfall up to the 14th has been 58.5mm, which compares with an average figure of 65mm for a full month.

Temperature

The latter half of November saw a couple of warm days on the 17th and 18th, with the intervening night-time temperature not falling below 12°C. However, there were also three nights when the temperature fell below 1°

Day-time temperatures in December have generally been in the 5-7°C range, reaching a high of 10.5°C on the 14th. Overnight temperatures twice fell to 0.5°C or below.

The solar panel readings in November totalled 100kWh, less than a quarter of a typical summer month. But then the days are half as long and the sun only half as high in the sky.

MT

200 Club

1st Mrs P Haynes £50

2nd Mr A Harrison £20

3rd Mr R Brenndorfer £10

Drawn by "our Ernie"

Methodist Chapel

Minister: Rev E Cushion 821460

Stewards: Robin Jackson 810250

Gareth Papps 810094

We still cannot worship within the Chapel but we can Zoom with Easingwold on Sunday mornings or in the afternoon with the village chapels. Everyone is welcome. **Contact Rev. Elizabeth Cushion on 821460 or Tricia Mitchell on 838569.**

We look forward to our doors being open with the sound of singing all our favourite hymns.

We wish you a safe and healthy 2021.

St Mary's Marton

Church

Contact: Caroline Hunt 878242

cjhunt.home@gmail.com

Sue Whiting 810251

We are still opening the church for personal prayer on Thursday mornings (9am-12pm) and Sunday afternoons (2-5pm).

Please just let us know if you would welcome any support, prayers or a friendly phone call.

Do get in touch if you would like to hear more about how the churchyard is being maintained or if you would like to receive a weekly email with worship material from Rev Steve as part of our online church community as 'Marton Friends'.

facebook.com/martonchurch

achurchnearyou.com/church/18888/

cjhunt.home@gmail.com