

Stillington News

Issue 317

www.stillingtonvillage.org

June 2021

Stillington Scarecrow Festival - The Final Countdown!

Well, here we are folks! It's almost time to showcase your SCARECROW! This weekend (**5th & 6th June**) we are so excited for our village to be the home of homemade celebrities, cartoon characters, animals, superheroes and so much more!

Thanks to everyone who popped their address in our little green box. We are creating a trail, to be printed onto a map of the village. This will be available for sale (**£1.50**) **between 11am - 4pm from the Village Hall**. All proceeds from this will be donated to the Easingwold District Community Care Association (EDCCA), a fantastic local charity.

The lovely **Pop-up-Café** 'At The Mill' will be open for extended hours ALL weekend, from **10am - 5pm**, offering a wonderfully refreshing end to the scarecrow trail. They have all sorts of tasty treats available, great coffee, public toilets and will kindly be donating the profits from sales of their signature 'Sausage Sandwiché' to the EDCCA too.

Finally, we have come to the conclusion that this will be a Scarecrow FESTIVAL, not a COMPETITION. After such a tough year, we feel it's *significantly* more important to celebrate our communities' creativity as a whole, than be deciding who's 'the best'. So, with no judges or prizes - EVERYONE'S a winner this year, and we just can't wait to see Stillington populated with colour and life!

Hope to see you all at the weekend on your scarecrow voyage, beginning at the Village Hall any time between 11am - 4pm!

TENNIS is back and welcome to all players

The courts are fully open for play. Club tennis sessions are Saturday afternoons from 2pm; match practice is on Sunday evenings 6pm. **Match fixtures for the York & District Mixed league start 22nd June** with a reduced fixture list to get everyone back into playing. There will be no promotion or relegation this time.

Junior coaching will be from Sat 5th June to Sat 17th July. 9am to 10am for 5 to 10 years and 10am to 11am for 10 to 16 years. The coaching will be run again by Down the Line Sports. Members and non-members are welcome. Full cost of the course is **£42** payable at the first session. Balls and rackets are provided.

For further details contact coaching@stillingtontennis.org; or enquiries@stillingtontennis.org or phone Graham Cookman 01347 810047.

**St Nicholas Parish Church
Invites you to
Come and help us count
What is living and growing
in spare cemetery field
on North Back Lane
What Plants, birds,
animals and trees will you
find?**

**Saturday 5th June
10 am to 12 noon**

We will provide recognition charts and guidance
Please wear suitable clothing and footwear
All children must be accompanied by an adult
Further information from Margaret Price 811262
This is part of a national 'churches count on nature' project

Supporting Stillington

The last year, as we all know, has been a very difficult one for businesses and individuals alike. With restrictions now beginning to ease we thought that it might be useful for the village community to be reminded of what is available to them here in Stillington. For one time only, the July issue will enable local businesses to remind our community what is on their doorstep. **Please note, any item will be subject to editing RE: space available and suitable content.** Email your promotional piece to the Stillington News usual address.

Please email contributions for the **July** issue to news@stillingtonvillage.org by **23rd June**

News from Stillington Surgery

This year we are trialling a new system for annual reviews starting with our diabetes patients. Our aim is to complete all our diabetes annual reviews through the summer months (April – October) and then do the shorter review through winter when the surgery is generally busier.

For patients whose birthdays fall between April and September, we request that you book an appointment for the month of your birthday. For those with birthdays from October through to March please book 6 months before your birthday. For example, birthdays in October would book an appointment in April, birthdays in November would book in May, December in June, etc.

This may result in you having your review sooner than you usually would this year but in the longer term we hope that it will help to balance the workload of the Surgery and will encourage more patients to proactively book their appointment. We will still remind those who do not book in and would like to expand our use of text messaging for this purpose. Please therefore ensure that we have your current mobile number and your consent for text messaging on our records.

Stillington Gardening Club News

AGM

The AGM was successfully held on Zoom on the 28th April. A new Treasurer, Helen Stainsby and a new Membership Secretary Gelda Churton were elected, Nigel Marsh and Robert Churton were thanked for their contributions to the Club. The membership subs for this year were set at £5. These are now due, please hand in at Sweethope NBL.

Plant Sale

The Stillington Gardening Club Annual Plant Sale was held on Friday 7th May. What a success it was.

Many members attended and the total sales were £420. The photo below shows the huge quantity of plants for sale and nearly all were sold. In addition 8 new members signed up.

Dennis North must be singled out for particular praise for all his time and work he put into growing all the plants, in what were very difficult weather conditions. This was Dennis's 42nd plant sale. WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT.

A big thank you to all our helpers especially the Skelton brothers who directed everyone in so politely.



Autumn Show

This will take place on **Sunday August 15th 2021**. Carol Marsh and her team are working hard on the plans and preparation. More details next month. Now is the time to start nurturing your entries.

Dill

Dill's delicately flavoured leaves and caraway flavoured seeds are both used in culinary dishes. Dill seeds are often an ingredient in pickles, especially pickled cucumbers and in cabbage dishes such as sauerkraut and coleslaw. Dill leaves, with a clean, refreshing flavour, are often added to cut through sour cream and yoghurt. One of dill's best known uses is in gravadlax, made by marinating fresh salmon with salt, sugar, pepper and finely chopped dill leaves. It is also used in many fish dishes.

Tips for the Garden - JUNE

1. Start planting out summer bedding towards the end of the month.
2. Hoe borders regularly to keep down weeds.
3. Be water-wise, especially in drought-affected areas.
4. Pinch out the side shoots of tomatoes.
5. Harvest lettuce, radish, other salads and early potatoes.
6. Mow lawns at least once a week.
7. Plant out summer bedding.

Robert Churton

Huby And Sutton Agricultural Society

For the first time ever, we will have had no show for two years and I feel that now would be a good time to take a fresh look at our organization. We are desperately short of committee members; Huby only has one. My aim as President is to have 3-4 from each village i.e. Huby, Sutton and Stillington. I do not think that is a big ask, we have had a lot of new residents join us in the last few years. I am sure you will enjoy the experience, roughly 8 meetings a year, a little work 2-3 days before the show and a day after to clear up

The show is our main community event. I have been involved for 61 years, so it can't be so bad!!

I intend to split the committee into smaller sub committees, depending on your interests, believe me you will enjoy helping. The show is a charity and obviously will fold if help is not forthcoming in the next year.

Rachel, our Secretary is retiring but will be staying on the committee. Maggie is also retiring as Chairperson but again will stay on the committee. Kim Beamont has returned as Treasurer and will lend a lot of expertise and I will remain as President.

I must emphasise that the show is an important event and we are very grateful to Sutton Park for allowing us to stage it in such a magnificent venue.

All you need to do is contact me. I will ensure that by helping the community in this small way you will have an enjoyable experience. We have time to work at it, since there is no show this year!

My plea is that you give me a ring, **01347 810433** and have a chat.

DO PLEASE GET IN TOUCH

**Willie Anderson
President**

Stillington CC - Ton up in March

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone that sponsored me. I was amazed by everyone's generosity and did not expect to raise as much money as I did. The challenge proved to be a tough one, but I managed to complete it on the final day with a 5 mile run. Altogether, I raised over £1,200 pounds which was truly astonishing. We have already spent some of the money on some new cricket training equipment which will help the juniors massively. Thanks once again.

Liam Coultous

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

Objects Of Interest No 12

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.*

The Clock in 1996



QUESTIONS:

What was there originally?

Why was it changed?

When was this done?

How often has this happened?

Where is the original clock?

Who did the repairs?

ANSWERS:

What? A simple country clock with just one hand.

Why? The clock was in need of urgent repair

When? Around 1869. The striking mechanism was added in 1876.

How? Three times: 1903, 1938 and 1996.

Where? Behind the present clock face.

Who? Geoff Newey is in the Photograph above. The Newey family, of York, are famous clock makers and restorers.

Picture - 2021



Written by Robert Churton and Liz Cole

School News

I hope everyone is enjoying the lovely weather and enjoying the slight relaxing of restrictions. We are really excited that we can begin activities which bring our three schools together. We are looking forward to our Sports Enhancement Day at Terrington Village Hall. The children will create new cross-school year-group bubbles for the day and take part in a rotation of different sporting activities led by the teachers and sports coaches of our schools.

The relaxing of restrictions also means our long-awaited toddler and preschool sessions can take place after May half term. The dates for these are below. If you would like to join us with your child please contact the school office on stillingtonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk.

After Easter we welcomed our first nursery children into school. They have settled so well into the fantastic provision we have in our classroom. We look forward to sharing their learning experiences and development as they progress through Stillington Primary School. If you would like to explore the nursery provision we offer please email the school office to arrange. We would be delighted to meet you and your child.

Early Years Workshops

Parents and children from 2-4 years are invited to attend our parent workshops. The interactive sessions will be led by teachers and will provide you with fun ideas for learning at home. The sessions will finish with a chance for your child to play in a nursery environment with other children.

Thursday 10th June Ready to Read 9.30 - 10.30

Tuesday 15th June Maths all around 9.30 - 10.30

Thursday 1st July Let's get physical 9.30 - 10.30

Tuesday 6th July Exploring nature 9.30 - 10.30

Please contact stillingtonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk or phone 01347 810347 to confirm attendance. All children and parents are welcome to attend these workshops.

We are really excited to be able to share our latest virtual Ofsted report, which whilst it could not change our Ofsted grading, shows the huge progress we have made. I am so proud of our staff and children for the hard work and dedication they have shown to achieve such an amazing report. The report can be found here files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50162593 or via the Stillington School website.

**Sarah Moore
Headteacher**

Do you care about improving children’s education and want to make a positive contribution to your local community?



Stillington Community Primary School is looking for a new Governor to join our team.

If you are over 18, have some transferable ‘business skills’ and are able to commit approximately 10-15 hours per term to the role we would be delighted to hear from you.

To find out more or for an informal chat about the role, please contact Corinne Cross (Chair of Governors) via the school office or e-mail: cofg@stillington.n-yorks.sch.uk

Global Warming And Us

What it means

We are all increasingly aware of the disastrous consequences should global warming continue at its present rate. Indeed, there is a World Summit to be held in Glasgow in November to try and work out a way forward.

What can we do?

We can help by: using less plastic; separating our waste; driving less; not burning any waste, even garden waste etc. We might be doing a lot now but could we be doing more?

Please read on:

One of the big causes of pollution is the way our electricity is produced from fossil fuels and oil.

We could stop this pollution going into the air and causing global warming by only using electricity which is produced by green, sustainable energy sources such as Solar, Wind and Wave power. The electricity from these sources **DOES NOT** create global warming and so **DOES NOT HARM** the planet.

A way forward

Last year the target of generating enough electricity to supply all the domestic consumption, by green sustainable energy, Solar, Wind and Waves, was achieved. Quite a landmark!

A leader in this field is Octopus Energy, an electricity supplier which was named 'Company of the year 2021' and the first energy supplier, to be 'Which' recommended 4 years in a row. This is because they produce only 100% electricity from green sources.

Three good reasons to switch your electricity supplier

1. Save money on your electricity bills (£60-£250 annually) and receive £50 off your first bill.
2. Help global warming by using only electricity from green sustainable sources: Solar, Wind & Waves.
3. By switching to a supplier who only uses renewable energy you can achieve both of the first two reasons and you can also help your community receive a £50 bonus.

Remember

This is your individual choice. You make the contract with the supplier after seeing the facts. It is a personal choice.

Information sheet

An information sheet explaining all of this will be distributed around the whole village in June. This will provide all details needed to compare the different suppliers both by price and the sources of their electricity. There will be a direct link provided to make this easier.

If you need additional help or information please phone 'The Green Team' in Stillington on 810513.

You can save on your electricity bills and help reduce global warming by switching to a green supplier.

Robert Churton & the Green Team

Parish council Minutes - April

The Parish council meeting was held by Zoom with councillors Conway, Cookman, Drew, Churton, Taylor, Chairman Rowe, District Cllr Watkins and Clerk Mrs Midgley. The full minutes can be found on the council website and on the notice board.

Parish Maintenance

County Cllr Patmore held a meeting with NYCC Highways to raise queries regarding an accessible pathway for Stillington School from the Main Street - an officer will visit the village to assess before the parish council proceeds.

A suggestion was made to query the addition of a zebra crossing outside the school when the officer visits. A letter to NYCC, with an invitation to discuss the zebra crossing at the same time will be sent.

Planning

REF 21/00814/FUL The Chandlers, Main Street, Stillington.

REF 21/00814/FUL Grey Carr Lodge, Farm Green Lane, Blackwood's, Easingwold.

Two applications - Passed.

REF 21/00240/MBN Land and Buildings, Opposite Greendale West lane, Stillington

REF 21/00427/CAT Ashfield Cottage, Main Street, Stillington

Clerks Report

Parish Council audit papers were circulated. The annual governance document read out and all present agreed to accept the audit report and contents. Proposed by Cllr Churton, seconded by Cllr Drew.

Correspondence

Law and Governance section 5 White Paper was recommended to be correct as there was no change in the Law regards Zoom meetings. However, there were further changes in the Laws regarding Cllrs and employees conduct in the future.

Next Meeting and AGM Meeting

To be a joint meeting on Wednesday 9th June and will take place in the Village Hall. Unfortunately there is no public invitation as numbers have to be kept to a minimum.

Please direct any queries to Clerk Mrs Midgley 01347810285 stillingtonpc1@hotmail.com

The Minutes to be ratified as a true record at the next meeting.

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 17th May. A wet night has emerged again, what a change since the droughtiness of last month, however it doesn't warm up much. The rain was very welcome and has helped the late germinating seeds to establish. Grandson announced that he was in "Lamb Heaven" as the lambs ran races and skipped about in the evening air, whilst mothers ate their supplementary rations.

How good things in the garden, hedgerow and fields smelt after having a good drink and a little bit of sunshine. I am always advocating the visionary things in nature to look out for. But our sense of smell is one of our treasures. Our predecessors were given a young Tree Peony that has grown into a fair-sized shrub; its flowers are single and dark red with a circle of yellow stamens, but its scent is exquisite. One or two in a vase will make a room smell super. We can't tell what variety it is, even after scouring Kew Gardens, we found colour and size but not the perfume. It is, however, the scent of the May blossom that usually reaches me before the tight flower-laden branches burst into their brilliant whiteness. For many years that scent, though not too appealing, has stirred me and reminded me that "summer is almost here". How quick a smell can be recognised, like polish in some old houses! In a flash we are back in grannie's house. Our ability to smell is very small indeed when we consider that some insects can smell certain plants a mile away, and fly to them. I once read that if our scenting pieces were laid flat, they would be not much bigger than a postage stamp, whereas a dog's would be the size of a man's handkerchief. However, we have much better colour vision, so we are told!

The River Foss Society

Did you know that the River Foss runs past Stillington Mill? It begins near Crayke and joins the River Ouse around 28 miles later at Blue Bridge in York, the confluence of the two rivers being an important part of York's defences many years ago.

The River Foss Society is a friendly and enthusiastic group of people who are dedicated to its conservation and improvement all along its 28 or so miles. We get down and get dirty – litter picking and pulling up Himalayan balsam to help keep both problems under control, we even get into the river looking for water vole activity and are always looking for volunteers to get involved in these and other activities looking after the river.

We have a selection of walks planned over the coming months, and, once we return to 'normal' times, we will resume our varied programme of relevant visits, talks and outings. We check the river water for purity, we organise and join in with surveys to help understand and monitor its biodiversity. We are a point of contact for many of the organisations involved in the river's environment and are currently gathering data on the presence of mink, the water voles' number one enemy. Our members' newsletter is published four times a year listing forthcoming activities with reviews of those just completed, along with articles of general interest written by members.

There's a lot more about the Society on our website www.riverfossociety.co.uk or look at our Facebook page.

Go on, join us, you know you want to!

I haven't heard the Cuckoo yet this year, though there have been reports of odd ones about us. It is a sound that is getting scarcer as the years go by and there is much speculation as to why this should be. Also, the Swallow population seems to have taken a tumble. There are few on the farm this year and they were late in arriving. I have heard that a Swift has been seen in the village and by the time that you read this, hopefully many more will be about flying on their scimitar wings at great speed and filling the air with their screaming calls.

Last week, I was amused as a Robin tried to alight on a Dandelion clock but, of course, it collapsed, and the little bird stumbled and looked a bit startled!!

Our lawn is not the trim sight it should be because (a) the mower has been playing up, (b) I have been short of time, (c) wildflower meadows are all the rage at the moment, and (d) I am going to spray out the broad-leaved weeds. There's four good excuses! In the orchard and round the pond we have a few Milk Maids, Ladies Smock or whatever other name you have for them, but I will endeavour to cut round them and some of the wonderful Forget-me-nots that grow in patches of blue. Our early Honeysuckle is just bursting into flower, the yellow breaking through the red outer of the petals, and on a warm evening the smell will be a delight for us and for night flying moths and insects.

Enjoy this wonderful season of newness bursting forth all round us.

R&M

Weather Report - May

Rainfall

Last year April was dry and sunny. This year it was even drier and even sunnier.

There were only three days with measurable rainfall. The total for the month was less than 5mm (average figure 37mm).

The dry spell which started on March 16th ended dramatically on May 3rd when we experienced 19mm (3/4 inch) in a day. By the 16th rainfall totalled 53mm, more than the average total for May.

Temperature

The highest temperature in April was 19.7°C on the 20th. May, so far, reached 18.1°C, on the 9th.

The lowest temperature in April, -1.7°C, occurred on the night of 12th/13th, one of nine unseasonably frosty nights in April. So far nights in May have been cool, but generally above zero. The lowest temperature was 0.8 °C on the night of 1st/2nd.

In 2020 the Met Office reported that nationally it had been the sunniest April on record. In 2021 we had a new record again. My solar panels generated 500kWh, certainly the best April figure and only exceeded in four months during the past five years.

MT

CHURCH SERVICES - June

St Nicholas, Stillington

Priest:

Revd Stephen Whiting 810251
benefice.admin@gmail.com

Lay Minister:

Margaret Price 811262
pricehm870@gmail.com

Church Wardens:

Janet Martin 822981
jessie.jm158@gmail.com
Richard Mapletoft 811854
rmapletoft@outlook.com

Worship in Church

We are continuing to hold services in church. No booking is needed.

Sun 6th Holy Communion 10am
Sun 20th Morning Worship 10am

The Church will also be open for personal prayer every:

Wednesday 2 - 4pm

Sunday 10-12 noon - if there is no service

In order to keep us all safe you are asked to wear a mask, sanitise your hands on entry and leave a contact name and telephone number

Prayers for the village are now held every Friday 4.30 - 5pm by zoom. If you would like to join us or if you want prayers said for anyone or anything please contact Margaret Price 811262 or pricehm870@gmail.com

Holy Communion at home Would you like to receive Holy Communion at home? If you are not able to come to Church on a Sunday morning would you like me to visit you at home? From 17th May I am allowed to visit you, so do give me a phone call to arrange a convenient time - Margaret Price 01347 811262

200 Club

1st Mrs R Little - £50
2nd Mrs H Hill
3rd Mr T Drew
Drawn by "our Ernie"

Journeys

As we begin a new month, I am thinking of the paths that we continue to travel. One is the 'roadmap' journey from lockdown to a greater freedom (we hope). From there we will be able to make journeys further than we have been able to recently, to meet family and friends, visit places and go on holidays. Journeys which I suspect will be taken with caution but a lot of joy.

And we also think of our personal journey over the last 14 months. Some people will have been affected more than others, but it has impacted on everyone and we will not be the same people or churches as when we set out.

As these journeys interweave, I pray that we will all be renewed by hope and the new life that God offers us through the Spirit.

Elizabeth Cushion

St Leonard's, Farlington

Sunday services are continuing and being enjoyed by the people who come and join us. At the time of writing, wearing masks continues to be a requirement but we are hoping that this may be eased towards the end of June. Being able to sing would be a very welcome relaxation, too.

Sun 13th Shortened Matins (BCP) 11.15am

Sun 27th Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am

Pre-booking for these services should not be necessary.

The church will continue to be open for private prayer on Tuesdays and Saturdays between 10am and 4pm but the plan is to revert to daily opening from Tuesday, June 22nd.

The Churchyard remains open at all times for people to enjoy 'quiet time' in lovely surroundings.

Looking ahead, we are planning to resume our cycle of farming services the first of which will be **Lammastide on Sunday, August 15th and, after that, Harvest Festival on Friday, September 24th**

St Mary's Marton

Church Contact:

Caroline Hunt 878242
martonintheforest@gmail.com
Sue Whiting 810251

In June we'll be taking time to celebrate wildlife as part of a national event called 'Churches Count on Nature' (caringforgodsacre.org.uk). Spring flowers are now starting to come out - bush vetch, cow parsley, stitchwort, yellow archangel, bluebells, campion, forget me nots, cuckoo flowers - these are all being enjoyed by the bees and butterflies! The churchyard is open daily if you're passing by. **Marton Church is open for personal prayer Thursdays 9-12 and Sundays 2-5.**

facebook.com/martonchurch
achurchnearyou.com/church/18888/

Methodist Chapel

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

We are hoping to have services inside just as soon as the Covid restrictions allow but we will continue to Zoom at present. Keep an eye on the Notice board for details.

We are on Zoom in Easingwold on Sunday mornings and with the Village Chapels on Sunday afternoons.

Please contact Rev Elizabeth Cushion on 821460 or Tricia Mitchell on 838569.

Everyone is welcome to join us at any of these services.