



Stillington News

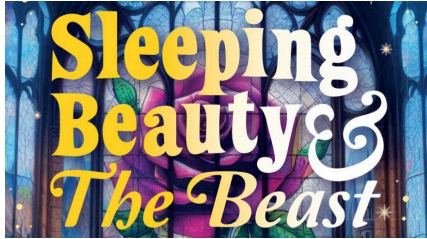


Issue 359

www.stillingtonvillage.org

December 2024

Badapple Theatre presents



at
Stillington Village Hall
Tuesday 31st December, 1pm
Tickets available from the
Village Stores
and ruralarts.org
Adults £10
Child over 3 years £5
Under 3yrs & Carers free
(see pg 2 for more details)



Traditional
Carols by Candlelight
Marton: Sun 15th, 3pm
Farlington: Fri 20th, 6.30pm
St. Nicholas: Sun 22nd, 4pm
Huby Tues 24th, 6.30pm
Everyone is welcome to join for
this Joyous start to Christmas

St Nicholas Parish Church

Invites you to
our joint celebration of
our patron saint
St Nicholas And The
Christingle



Sunday 8th December, 4pm

STILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Invites you to a
BURNS NIGHT SUPPER
With Ceilidh Band
FIDDLERS WRECK
on Friday January 31st 2025, 7pm
Stillington Sports and Social Club
Traditional Scottish 4 course Supper

Tickets £28



Tickets available
from the village
shop



Merry
Christmas
from the
Stillington News team

Please email contributions
for the **January** issue to
news@stillingtonvillage.org
by **Wednesday 11th**
December

The
Tuesday
Pop In



Enjoy a
relaxing break
from your Christmas preparations
by joining us on **Tuesday**
mornings in the Village Hall
between 10.30 - 12 We are open
3rd, 10th and 17th December
Reopen on January 7th

Best wishes to everyone for an
enjoyable and peaceful Christmas
and New Year and to all our
friends who support us so well.

St Nicholas Church



Singers are required to form a choir for a
carol service in church
A traditional **Carols by Candlelight**
service will take place on
Sunday 22nd December, 4pm
with a choir rehearsal at **3pm**
Well known carols and hymns will be sung
If you enjoy singing, please join
the choir if you can
Enquiries to - **Adryenne Hope: 811039**
or **Rita Bresnen: 810024**

Advent Windows
Please see page 3 for details

Free Cookery Courses -
Fun with Food

Adult Learning: Free cookery sessions at
the Galtres Centre, Easingwold.
2nd Dec Christmas on a Budget
9th Dec Using Christmas Leftovers
From 10am to 12.30pm
Tel 01609 532 896

Solar Panel application

Large Solar Panel development is proposed on land to the south of Huby and Sutton on Forest, off Brownmoor Lane. See suttonontheforestspolar.co.uk for more details of the proposed project.

Thank you's

Samaritans Purse shoebox appeal

A big thank-you to everyone who packed a shoebox and left it for collection at St Nicholas Church, to share God's love with a child who may not receive anything else at Christmas.

There are heart-warming clips of previous shoebox deliveries on samaritans-purse.org.uk

23 boxes were handed in to the collection point in Easingwold. Anyone who made an on-line donation will be notified where and when their gift is delivered.

200 Club

It's the beginning of a new year for the club and we would like to thank all those in the village and their friends who have supported the church by joining the club again this year. It's a very important fund raiser for the church and, therefore plays a very important part in keeping the church open and functioning. Thank you.

Quizzes at Sports and Social Club

The November quiz raised **£465** for the Tennis Cub (apologies - not £365 as announced). Another close quiz with a win for Rita and Les Bresnen with Pauline and Tim Drew.

Friday 6th December quiz will be for the Sports and Social Club.

Sleeping Beauty and The Beast

Three actors, two pantomimes, one hour – what can possibly go wrong?

The intrepid Badapple actors go where no pantomimers have ever gone before in their hilarious new panto mash-up from York writer and actor Richard Kay.

Join Fairy Naturel and friends as they try to thwart the evil potion, plant-poisoning plans of the Wicked Witch of the West, and save Belle and Beauty from their storybook fates. Expect classic pantomime – japes, songs and costume changes galore – on a joyous rollercoaster for all ages.

Your editors, for the last time, are: Emma Johnson & Tracy Sinclair. If you would like to contact us please do so using the Stillington News email. If you would like to make a donation to the Stillington News you can do so either by BACS: Stillington News; Account no: 41651089; Sort code: 09 01 54 or sending cheques to 1 Chantry Gardens, Stillington, YO61 1NF



Stillington Post Office
& Stores

Owned by the community. Run by
volunteers



We would like to wish all our volunteers and customers a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Our opening times over the Christmas and New
Year period are as follows:

25th December

The Shop and Post Office will be closed.

26th December and 1st January

The Shop will be open
6.30-10.30am

The Post office will be closed.

Our hamper raffle will run once again throughout December. One raffle ticket for every £10 spent in the shop. (**Excluding the sale of tobacco, stamps and payment of newspaper and shop accounts**). The draw will take place on Saturday 21st.

Orders for Thornton's pork pies and Brymor Christmas ice-cream (Christmas pudding and gingerbread flavours) are now being taken. Payment will be required with the order.

The final date for orders is 11th December.

Come along and check out our wonderful selection of Christmas goodies and our Martin House charity cards.

Farewell to the Old and in With the New

As you all are most probably aware, Emma and myself are stepping down after seven years as editors of the Stillington News. We have both really enjoyed our time editing the newsletter and helping to keep the Stillington community grapevine going. Thank you, to all our contributors, new and old, for providing us with wonderful content; even during the lean times of Covid we filled a six page newsletter, which wasn't easy when we couldn't leave our homes! It was unmistakable, during those days, how important the newsletter was in maintaining our community connections and we are really pleased to have played our small part.

The Stillington News will always be a really important connection for our community and we are delighted it will continue to be so now our time has come to an end.

From January 2025, Lorraine Chamberlain and Wanda Szajna-Hopgood will be taking over the reins as joint editors. Dick Tregae will continue in his role as treasurer. Emma and I wish them all the best.

Tracy Sinclair and Emma Johnson

Stillington Bonfire And Fireworks 2024

As the sun dipped below the horizon, the village buzzed with excitement for the evening's festivities. Families gathered in clusters, children clutching colourful glow sticks that lit up their faces in vibrant shades of pink, blue, and green. The air was alive with the thumping beat of music blasting from a speaker set up on the leading car, filling the streets with infectious energy.

The procession began to wind its way through the heart of the village, the lively music drawing everyone forward. Parents held hands with their little ones, guiding them eagerly toward the main event—the grand bonfire waiting to be lit. The anticipation grew as they approached the open field, excitement crackling in the air.



Rows of spectators lined up, eyes wide with eagerness as they prepared for the spectacle. The bonfire, a towering structure completed that day, stood ready for ignition. With a dramatic moment, flames roared to life, sending up massive plumes of fire and embers that danced against the dark sky. The warmth radiated outward, wrapping everyone in a comforting glow as sparks flew upward like shooting stars.

Children cheered, their voices blending with the crackling of the fire.

The bonfire illuminated the field, casting flickering shadows and illuminating the happy faces within the. After an excited wait, everyone knew the next part of the celebration was about to unfold.

Suddenly, the sky erupted with colour as fireworks ignited overhead. Bursts of red, blue, and gold painted the night, each explosion a dazzling spectacle. The sound of the fireworks echoed off the buildings from where the procession began, creating a thundering reflection that resonated throughout the celebration. Gasps of awe filled the air as families pointed skyward, eyes wide in wonder.

As the firework finale lit up the night, the crowd erupted into applause and cheers, a shared moment of joy that lingered in the air long after the last spark faded.



The Bonfire Committee is grateful to the visitor who provided this article, and would like to thank again everyone who helped with the planning and delivery of the event.

Article written by a visitor

Photos provided by the Bowles family

Stillington Advent Windows

Sunday	1	34	Parkfield
Monday	2	4	Parkfield
Tuesday	3	Cecily House, York Road	
Wednesday	4	9	Parkfield
Thursday	5	Yewtree Cottage, Main Street	
Friday	6	32	Parkfield
Saturday	7	3	Parkfield
Sunday	8	<i>Available</i>	
Monday	9	Blacksmiths Cottage, Main Street	
Tuesday	10	<i>Available</i>	
Wednesday	11	<i>Available</i>	
Thursday	12	Jasmine Cottage, Main Street	
Friday	13	<i>Available</i>	
Saturday	14	<i>Available</i>	
Sunday	15	Craven Cottage, Main Street	
Monday	16	115	Parkfield
Tuesday	17	Herriot Cottage, The Green	
Wednesday	18	Hambleton House, South Back Lane	
Thursday	19	6	The Cottages
Friday	20	<i>Available</i>	
Saturday	21	Cobble Cottage, Main Street	
Sunday	22	Acorn Cottage, Main Street	
Monday	23	<i>Available</i>	
Tuesday	24	St Nicholas Church	

An up-to-date list will be available from Stillington shop from 1st December. **Please contact Margaret Price 01347 811262 if you would like to fill one of the gaps during December**



Christmas Party

We hope you all enjoyed the SGC Christmas Party. This year we held it on November 27th to avoid the usual clash of events in December.

Speaker's Evening

Our next Speaker's Evening will be on Wednesday 29th January.

The subject is "River Foss

Catchment Revival" our Speaker will be Monika Smieja. This will be a good talk to start our 2025 season.

Village Flower Troughs

We would like to thank those who have helped look after the flower troughs. Thank you Mike Walker for your help with the York Road trough throughout the year.

SGC Committee

I would like to thank your Committee for all their hard work behind the scenes to ensure all our events go well. Especially for the Plant Sale, the Annual Show and the Christmas Party. Also Christine Shires, in particular for arranging all our Speaker's Evenings.

Gardening Tips-December:

If you need a bit of relief over Christmas here are a few jobs in the garden to get you out of the house.

1. Prune open-grown apples and pears (but not those trained against walls)
2. Prune acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding
3. Harvest leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops
4. Trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted
5. Take hardwood cuttings
6. Keep mice away from stored produce

Robert Churton

Stillington and Farlington WI

Going from Stillington to Easingwold you will almost certainly have seen the timber yard, immediately noticeable by the huge stacks of giant logs. BUT, have you noticed the sign at the entrance about the shed shop? On Wednesday 13th November, Stillington and Farlington WI heard all about this little shop from Miriam, the lady who started it. We also had the chance to see, and more importantly, smell, some of the lovely candles and wax melts she makes. All the products she uses are responsibly sourced, natural soya wax, cotton wicks and essential oils; even the glitter is biodegradable. There are 11 different fragrances with more being developed. Miriam also makes greeting cards and the shop sells handmade soaps and other crafts. An interesting and informative evening, as well as a chance to get ahead with our Christmas present shopping!

Next month we will be making a Christmas wreath.

Wednesday 11th December, 7.30pm

Stillington village hall

Visitors welcome but please phone me before as you will need to bring some equipment with you **Angela 07825 446687**

Angela Hawker

Stillington Wanderers

Good turn outs for both November walks.

Scackleton start on 11th Nov. with a route criss-crossing other walks: via Scackleton Grange, Swathgill, crossing Coulton, down to the springs near Hovingham Lodge & back to base up Scackleton Lane.

A 2^o crisp, clear day for 23rd Nov. walk from Husthwaite: starting through the village gardens; down to *Orchards of Husthwaite*, cider makers base and The Hideaway at Baxby Manor with its glamping variations. Husthwaite has been known as the 'Orchard Village' since the early 17th Century with fruit shipped all over the north east of England. *Orchards of Husthwaite* was formed in 2009 to replant the vanishing orchards and use the fruit to make and sell a variety of products including ciders and juices. The walk skirted Thormanby and then north to Carlton Husthwaite and return via Robson Tractors and Baxby Manor Airfield.

Next walks: Monday 2nd, 16th and 30th December. Meet outside the White Bear at 9.30am

Walks donation: the £1 donation per walk, less any fuel or car parking fees, has accumulated to enable £75 donation to Children in Need and £75 towards the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Stillington Parish Council - November Meeting

The Council meeting was on Wednesday 6th October 2024 in the Village Hall with Cllrs Tim Drew (Chairman), Graham Taylor, Robert Churton, Richard Smyth, Tim Milburn, Christine Cookman and Tracy Sinclair together with 2 members of the public. Apologies were received from North Yorkshire Cllr Malcolm Taylor.

Public Session

Matters raised were EC charging, South Back Lane rat infestation and defibrillator servicing.

North Yorkshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Taylor reported that the planning application on Easingwold Road has been deferred pending three items of further information.

Bus Shelter

The bus shelter has been vandalised and an initial temporary repair to the glass been made together with a full repair. The Police have caught the perpetrators and financial restitution is being sought.

Grass cutting

The Chairman will negotiate the new grass cutting schedule with the contractor. A wildflower policy working group to be formed to advise on a future strategy.

EV Charging

It was agreed that due to limited parking at the village hall the installation of an EV charger will not be pursued.

Dog Waste Bin

A dog waste bin for Mill Lane to be requested.

Next Meeting

Wildflower policy, budget setting and Precept setting to be added to the next agenda. Meeting to be held on Wednesday 4th December 2024 in the Village Hall at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.02pm.

Nigel Knapton Clerk to the Parish Council
clerk@stillingtonparishcouncil.uk

Countryside Notes

Tuesday, 19th November A big change in the weather, a covering of snow this morning after a frost and a hoar frost the previous night. We have not become accustomed to feeling cold!! The sheep saw it coming, eating a lot on Sunday afternoon, doing what I call "Packing"; if you can fill them, then they will cope when the bad weather comes, a good shepherd sees the signs and prepares.

I have said that I would write about the Ash Tree this month as we have lost so many in the Stripe or strips around Home Farm Park. The silviculturists of decades ago referred to it as the "Venus of the Woods" on account of its gracefulness when given the opportunity to spread its branches, to catch as much sunshine as possible. The tree is usually one of the last to put its leaves up, and one of the first to shed them in the autumn. The leaves break forth after the tree has flowered in the spring. The flowers are not very inspiring, being like a black cinder that opens to reveal the yellow pistil and the stamens of a dark purple, in due time the Ash Keys will form like a bunch of keys. Each key is an elongated shiny seed, each with a slight twist, so, when ripe, they can travel, twisting in the breeze. The seed being in the base of the key, is weighted to give it power to bury itself and perpetuate another ash tree. The ash tree is fairly fast growing and, if grown near other ash trees, will grow straight. However, the isolated ones branch out to give charm to all.

The ash's lifespan is about 200 years, so it is not a long-lived tree, the venerable old trees' timber is often not of consistent dense wood and, often, lightning has made its mark. So, good ash timber, which is fairly durable but not too heavy, is taken from younger trees that, through working their way up, have grown towards the light, straight and supple.

Rooks and Crows like to nest high in these trees, where they have good visibility because the leaf canopy is not as dense as some other trees, also they like the thick ash twigs for the structural foundation for their nests. Ash dieback is here and we hope that the ash will not share the same fate as the wonderful Elm.

Have a good Christmas and enjoy the countryside around you.

R & M

Disturbing the Peace – A Traumatic Story

It will not be unusual if this Advent you receive Christmas cards proclaiming "Peace" in words and images which evoke tranquillity, harmony, creativity and stillness. Yet the way in which Matthew gives us the story of Jesus' birth is shot through with trauma. Joseph struggles with the shame of his fiancée's pregnancy and sees this only as the end of their relationship, not the beginning. Herod is perturbed by the threat of an alternative monarch and perceives that the only way to ensure peace and control is through violence. Those who manage to get away find themselves searching for asylum in frighteningly strange places. And all of this while travellers from some distance come and go, leaving their mark by unwittingly and unwisely alerting the current king to the birth of a possible rival, by offering extravagant and thought-provoking gifts, and then clearing off home safe and sound, untouched by the instability raging around Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

The first two chapters of Matthew's Gospel are, of course, a prologue, and as such they encapsulate for us the significant themes of the whole book. Chief among these is the tussle between the values of God's kingdom and the values of Herod's and Caesar's kingdom – the tussle between seeking peace and justice through non-violence and seeking peace through violent control and oppression. Violence and victims are not simply to be found in the story of the massacring of innocent young children, but occur on a number of other occasions too.

Perhaps the question that lies before us this Advent as we engage with Matthew's story is whether we wish to sail through the narrative in the way that the wise men do, coming and then going, bringing their gifts and then returning to the relative safety of their homeland, or whether we are prepared to take seriously the depth of the text in all its trauma, recognising that it poses for us the choice between God's values of trust, hope, vulnerability and community and Herod's values of fear, control, power and isolation.

You might like to take time over the next few weeks to see the story from alternative perspectives, perhaps not only those of the main characters, but also those that remain unmentioned or unnamed: Mary's parents, Joseph's best friend, a soldier ordered to kill a baby, a mother hiding her infant....

And then ask yourself how this may have deepened your understanding of contexts such as Gaza, Israel and Lebanon.

David Bidnell (Methodist Minister)

Your Village Defibrillator is kept in the Church Porch Available 24/7. A second Defibrillator is at the Sports and Social Club near the Squash Court entrance and a third on the front wall of the Village Hall. No code needed.

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

Eco Top Tips from St Nicholas' Church

Every month the Eco-Working Group at St Nicholas' Church gives a few handy tips for every household to understand and control their carbon emissions, as an act of love for Christ's creation and our fellow human beings.

For December, then:

December – Eco Christmas ideas

1. Be creative in the gifts you give this Christmas; make sure your desire to be loving is not damaging the environment.
2. Buy as much locally produced, in-season food and particularly veg as you can. Try not to over cater and waste food.
3. Wrap and rewrap. Why not reuse your wrapping paper? Take a bit of care unwrapping your presents (it adds to the gift experience), save the paper and reuse next year.
4. Enjoy the feast of Christmas! Don't forget to recycle your rubbish. Don't waste unwanted presents: find new homes for them through the charity shop or on Ebay.
5. **Get ready with your environmental New Year's Resolutions. How will you care for creation in the coming year?**



CHURCH SERVICES -December St Nicholas, Stillington

Priest:

Rev 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

Canon Emeritus:

Robert Law 810940
lrf43@kesonline.org

Sun 1st Advent Morning Praise 10am

Sun 8th St Nicholas / Christingle
Service 4pm

Sun 15th Holy Communion 10am

Sun 22nd Lessons and Carols by
Candlelight. *If you'd like to be a
member of the choir please come to
rehearsals at 3pm.* 4pm

Christmas Eve Midnight Communion
11pm

Christmas Day Methodist service in the
village hall 9.30am

Sun 29th Benefice Holy Communion.
We welcome friends from Sutton,
Farlington, Sheriff Hutton and Marton.
10am

Visiting the church The church is open
every day until 4pm.

Prayers for the village every Thursday
at 9am. If you would like to join us or
if you would like prayers said for anyone
or anything please contact Margaret
Price.

Holy Communion at home If you
would like to receive Holy Communion
at home please contact Margaret Price to
arrange a convenient time.

Club 200

As has become the custom in recent
years, we start the year with a double
draw for both October and November.
The winners for these two months are:

October

1st Mr C Torlesse
2nd Mrs K Tarron
3rd Mr J Mackinlay

November

1st Mr M Flint
2nd Mr M Green
3rd Mrs M Maxwell Scott

This year the prizes are
1st £50, 2nd £10 and 3rd £5

St Leonard's, Farlington

Priest:

Revd Stephen Whiting 810251
benefice.admin@gmail.com

Church Wardens:

Sally Wright 878745
Richard Haste 878581
richardhaste@btinternet.com

As another year draws to a close we
look forward to all the joy and
happiness which Christmas offers us
including, at St Leonard's, our **Carols
by Candlelight** and **Christmas Day
services**.

Just around the corner, is a new year
with new beginnings to look forward to.
This includes our celebration of the start
of the farming year which we celebrate
with our **Plough Sunday service** and
Ploughman's Lunch on January 12th
But, for now, **A Very Happy Christmas**
to you all from all of us at St Leonard's.

Sun 8th Shortened Matins (BCP)
10.30am

Fri 20th Carols by Candlelight
followed by seasonal refreshments
6.30pm

Sun 22nd Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am

Weds 25th Christmas Day
Our much-enjoyed celebration of
Christmas for all the family embracing a
shortened Holy Communion
10.30am

St Leonard's Christmas Grand Prize Bingo

Friday, December 6th
in Sheriff Hutton Village Hall
Eyes Down at 7.30pm

Join us for a Fun, Fundraising
Evening!

(please note - there will be
no cash prizes)

Great Fun and Fabulous Prizes

St Nicholas Flower Rota

Advent starts on December 1st. During
that time we decorate the Church for
Christmas.

There will be no flowers on the Altars
until just before Christmas.

25th December - Christmas Day,

Mrs R Bresnen

29th December

Mrs R Bresnen

We are always looking for more
volunteers to help with the Church
Flowers. Please contact Gelda Churton
on 810513 if you would like to help

Methodist Chapel

Minister:

Rev David Bidnell 01904 345429
david.bidnell@gmail.com

Steward:

Robin Jackson 810250
robinjacksonwoodside@gmail.com

Villages Working Together

Sun 1st Huby - Mr Robin Jackson
10.30am

Sun 8th Alne Hall - Rev Bidnell
3pm

Sun 15th Huby - Rev Duck
10.30am

Sun 22nd Tholthorpe - Rev Schofield
3pm

On Christmas Day In the Morning - Stillington Village Hall

Come and join the celebration. It's a
very special day. A short service for
everyone with some of your favourite
carols. 9.30am

Sun 29th Easingwold - Rev Hayward
United church services with villages
together meeting. 10.30am

St Mary's Marton

Church Contact:

Caroline Hunt 878242
martonintheforest@gmail.com

Sue Whiting 810251

Sun 1st Advent Celtic Communion
3pm

Sun 15th Carols by Candlelight -
followed by festive refreshments
3pm

Everyone is very welcome to join us at
these services or to drop in at any time
for a little peace and quiet reflection.
There is a box of blankets in the pulpit
and hot drinks are always available. We
continue to collect food and other
household products for the 'I am
Reusable' community foodbank in
York. Do write in our Visitors' Book -
we love to see your comments. If you're
out and about with your family, St
Mary's Church has also become a
geocache site - more to follow in due
course

Saint Nicholas Church Rota

During the month of December
everyone helps.

If you can help to keep the church
clean and would like to be included
in the 2025 rota please ring

Adryenne Hope: 811039!