

HAPPY NEW YEAR  
*Stillington News*

Issue 348

www.stillingtonvillage.org

January 2024

**Stillington and District  
Community Archive**

A Presentation by Liz Cole

Stillington Place Names

A virtual Tour

**Wednesday 24th January  
at 7:30 in the Village Hall**

Members Free    Guests £3  
Refreshments £1

**A MESSAGE FROM THE  
*Stillington News* TEAM**

Happy new year to all our readers and contributors and thank you to all who have donated to the paper. **The donations go towards the cost of printing alone; everything else is done by volunteers.**

Throughout 2023 we had various discussions regarding the running costs of the paper and its future:

We want the paper to continue in its current format i.e an actual, tangible, **News Paper**, free and delivered to all households in the village up to 6 pages of local news, events and relevant information, **No Paid Ads!** And a space for local individuals, organisations and businesses to use (that also benefits the village and **within Set Guidelines**).

In order for this to happen some changes have been agreed, to start with: **Please be aware** of the new Deadline for contributions to the paper. Going forward it will be a **week earlier than usual, giving a week "grace"**. This is to accommodate the ever busy lives of the editors. Please contact us if you need any extra days within the grace period to get your item to us so we can put aside space in the paper.

These changes might only be temporary, depending on their benefits over time.

**Any feedback is always welcome,  
email us via the address above.**

**TUESDAY  
POP IN**

**JANUARY 2nd  
at 10.30**

Come along

for a warm welcome, some tasty drinks and festive nibbles while sharing a good chat with neighbours and friends.

Look forward to seeing you all again in 2024

**Happy New Year to everyone from  
The Pop In Team**



Please email contributions for the **February** issue to [news@stillingtonvillage.org](mailto:news@stillingtonvillage.org) by **Wednesday 17th January**

**STILLINGTON VILLAGE  
HALL**

Invites you to a

**BURNS NIGHT  
SUPPER**

With Ceilidh Band

**FIDDLERS WRECK**

on Friday January 26th 2024 at  
**Stillington Sports and Social Club**  
at 7pm



Traditional Scottish 4 course Supper  
with vegetarian option

**Tickets £28**

Tickets available from the village shop  
in January

**Stillington Primary School nursery**

If you have 15 hours free childcare, then we will top it up to  
30 hours for free

Our nursery provides Ofsted rated "Good" provision for children aged 3 years and up. If your child already has 15 hours funded childcare, then we can top it up to 30 hours for free. We also provide wrap-around care from 8am until 6pm.

**Follow us on Facebook to find out more:**

**Stillington                      Community  
Primary School**



**General Knowledge  
Quizzes**

It was a record turnout & fundraiser for the December quiz in aid of the Bowling Club making £412. And it was Bowling Club members who made up the winning team of Kathy and Alan Berry with Janet & David Martin. 5 January Quiz will be for the Sports and Social Club to help fund some new furniture.

**Children in Need support**

Thank you everyone who supported Children in Need through the red bucket on the PO counter. £34.60 was raised and the Stillington Wanderers added £65.40 from their fortnightly walks collection to make £100.

## Stillington Wanderers

It was a damp, misty 24 November walk from Slingsby village, walking along the disused rail track to Fryton. It was then a climb up to Fryton Woods and the Centenary Way & then down to Slingsby. The three millennium mosaics, local to Fryton, are well worth a visit.

Dec 4 was a return visit to Myton on Swale walking past late C17<sup>th</sup> Myton Hall (now home to the Morrison family) built by the Stapylton family and 'maybe' designed by John Etty; Myton Bridge the site of the Battle of Myton where Yorkshiremen & clergy lost to the Scots; the Myton Home Farm estate was improved and new buildings added by Major Henry Miles Stapylton (HMS logo in evidence) from late 1800's. Myton Bridge, recently renovated, replaced a previous bridge and ferry crossing.

Next walks are 1, 15 and 29 January 2024. Meet 9.30am outside the White Bear.

## WI report

On Wednesday 13th December, the ladies of the Stillington and Farlington WI met for our Christmas dinner. This is a special meeting, just for us, but "normal service is resumed" next month when we will hear a talk from an ex-metropolitan police officer. He will tell us some stories of his experiences in the force, this will be a funny/serious/entertaining talk of interest to lots of us, gentlemen as well as ladies. We will meet at Stillington Village Hall at 7:30 on Wednesday 10th January 2024. Hope to see you there.

All good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

## Villages Together Methodist Church Stillington Chapel

A wonderful service was held in the chapel on the afternoon of Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December led by our minister Revd David Bidnell. The occasion marked the closing of the building and was very well attended by friends from the Methodist and Anglican churches in the area and Stillington residents.

We continue to worship as Villages Together Methodist Church covering the villages of Stillington, Huby, Alne and Tholthorpe. Contributors to the service made references to the past, mentioning people and events linked to the chapel. However, much of the focus was on the future and looking forwards. The date, at the start of Advent, was specifically chosen as it is a time when we look forward to Christmas and preparing for the coming of Jesus. As Methodists in our village, we want to look forward to new experiences (and challenges) whilst working in close co-operation with our membership spread across Huby, Tholthorpe and Alne. We will continue to work closely with those at St Nicholas' Church and other Christian groups. We remain involved with the Explorers after school club, Open the Book assemblies in school, the Christmas Pageant, and will as usual, lead the village Christmas morning service.

A lovely time of fellowship and friendship continued after the service in the village hall where a lovely buffet was shared. Our thanks go to all those involved in the celebrations and preparations, particularly the White Bear, the village hall volunteers and the Jackson family.

We hope that the people of Stillington will support us as we move in a new direction with renewed enthusiasm and hope. Villages Together Methodist Church (VTMC) services will continue to be advertised in the Stillington News. **Sally Gall**



## SGC NEWSLETTER – January 2024

### Christmas Party

I am writing this on the 14<sup>th</sup> December, the day after our annual Christmas Party. 42 members came to the party and great fun was had by all. The quiz was a great success, a big thanks to Hazel and Tony Ratcliffe for preparing the quiz and Peter Coomer for reading out the results. Congratulations to the winners.

The food was amazing both before and during the meal. Many thanks to all those who helped in preparing and serving the food. It was obviously much appreciated by everyone, especially those who came up for seconds.

### January Speaker

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January our guest speaker is Jill Ward. Jill will be talking about Burnby Hall, she is the Head Gardener. This will be a good evening.

### Happy New Year

Your Committee wishes you all a very Happy New Year and a good growing season in your gardens.

Your editors 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**



## Eco-tips for clearing up after Christmas from St Nicholas church

1. About 6 - 8 million Christmas trees go to landfill each year. Make use of our local green bin session on 8th January 2024 to dispose of your tree so that it can go into the waste recycling system.
2. Other natural decorations eg holly and ivy can also go into the 8th January green bin collection - or the soft leafy parts can go into your home compost.
3. Re-use cards and wrapping paper e.g. keep cards to cut out gift tags for next Christmas.
4. Some Christmas wrapping paper can be recycled - but not if it's covered with glitter. For another year think of making some draw-string bags to put presents in instead of paper wrapping. *But most wrapping paper is not recyclable. You can test it by doing the 'scrunch' test. If it springs back, it isn't recyclable. And always remove the sellotape before recycling.*
4. What can you do with leftover food? We all know ways of using up leftover turkey e.g. curry, fricassee. Keep leftover food in the fridge so that it can be used up over a longer period.
5. Keep feeding the birds through the cold weather and try to maintain open water for them to drink from.
6. Leave some untidy areas in your garden for sheltering insects and even perhaps a hibernating hedgehog.

## Countryside Notes January 2024

December 12 th , another damp misty day after daily rain that has flooded much farmland in the area for a long period of time. This will have done a lot of harm to a lot of winter sown corn. There are fields where soil compaction from heavy machinery is shown in yellowing stripes in the leaves of the new crop, not good news for soil structures, which will call for sub-soiling to get through and below the compacted soil, or a very dry summer where the clay soils will crack and contract before the rain expands them again. Soil is such a vital part in agriculture and its delicate structure must be looked after.

Fortunately, I made the decision to bring our last year's lambs out off the cold and wet grass to go inside to keep them warm and dry, also to get them on a better plane of nutrition and, though they have only been in a week, they look better. Their wool is brighter and clean, just as our hair shows our health for better or worse. I cannot see the sense in feeding expensive feed into sheep to only use it to keep warm and still be hungry.

We have had a joy through this atrocious weather: a yellow Welsh Poppy, with its orange-fringed petals opened up and though frosted and soaked in the last 12 days through the frost and rain, every day it picked up when the sun shone, even a little bit. Now there is a healthy round bud trying to open up. We will see whether it will open. Of course, these poppies are really a spring flower and can be a weed, which is only a plant in the wrong place.

This morning 5 or 6 Long Tailed Tits were working hard at the fat balls put out for them and their cousins. They are very busy little birds, always on the move and the look out. We have not the number of birds at the feeders that we usually have, however, they are always hungry for fat balls that have gone up in price since last year.

We have a fair few furry tailed rats, more commonly called Grey Squirrels about, which I suppose I should be controlling. They do amazing acrobatics in the trees as they leap from branch to branch, and scuttle along the roofs of the farm buildings, where they have hidey-holes. There has been war on these rodents all my life and before. 70 years ago, there was a government bounty on squirrel tails in an attempt to protect woodland plantings. Recently, I read that a Pine Marten was seen at Spurn Point. Why it should be there, no one knows as there are few trees for miles around and no vast forestry. The pine marten is, I understand, making a comeback in its home surroundings in Scotland, and is proving an asset in controlling grey squirrels. The Pine Marten is a Mustelid, or a member of the Stoat and Weasel family, and hunts the Greys up the trees. However, the beloved Red Squirrel, being lighter, can climb higher than its cousin and keep out of harm's way.

I read that there are a lot of beautiful Waxwings about this year, so watch for them eating berries on the hedgerows. I haven't seen one for years but I will watch out for them.

Enjoy Christmas and get out and see what you can and get an appetite for all those goodies (naughty but nice).

**R & M**

## Twelfth Night – the Feast of the Epiphany

[I know you may well be reading this ahead of New Year, if you just imagine you're now into January.] Well that was Christmas, over and done with for another year – turkey finished (don't know about you but I can't get enough turkey and cranberry sauce), tree down and decorations boxed up ready for next Christmas, presents put neatly away and 'thank you's written. Christmas is over and done with for another year... or is it?? As we step across the threshold of a new year it might seem as if carol singing and 'baby Jesus lying in a manger' are a dim and distant memory of the 'old year'. The shepherds have done what shepherds do and have gone back to watch their flocks and there is not an angel in sight. You might even reckon that the wise men have rode off across moor and mountain on their camels, travelling far to wherever they came from. But just hang on a second, these wise men haven't gone anywhere just yet, that's because the wise men actually turn up a little later, we have made them part of the Christmas story in a sort of condensed version of events, The wise men or the Magi (pronounced Mah-ji), their part in the story, for us, comes in January, on 6th when the Church celebrates the season of Epiphany (Epiphany meaning 'to reveal that which is hidden'). Baby Jesus was probably a little older and Mary and Joseph were unlikely to still be sheltering in a stable and this part of the story is set against a backdrop of the reign of a jealous tyrant king (Herod) whose cruelty will mean the young Holy family will soon need to flee and become refugees in another land. The season of Epiphany is like a continuation or the next chapter following Christmas with the wise men visiting the infant Jesus bringing their gifts from afar. This moment is much bigger and has more relevance than we may first realise as this part of the story, the Christmas story is about revealing to the world who this child really is. And this child will grow up and change the world.

Let's just think of the gifts these men bring, these are not minor-league gifts by any measure, they are top drawer, first rate expensive gifts, they are the best that these wise men could give. And they give them to a baby, but no ordinary baby, but a child who is God. It always amazes me that the gifts are presented and the men simply up and leave for home by another route having first found the King they were looking for by following a star.

I hope you have been able to keep Christmas going beyond celebrating the New Year and on up to the 6 th of January, (the Feast of the Epiphany) and beyond. Traditionally the 6 th of Jan is when we take down our Christmas decs, yet the season of Epiphany lasts until the 2 nd of February. Maybe, somehow, through the season of Epiphany is means of extending into the New Year so we can take onboard the fuller meaning of Christmas and the reason for the season, and by it be reminded that the story of Christmas doesn't end with our New Year celebrations; the Story continues, the story of our God and Saviour who came to walk among us, to live as one of us 2,000 years ago, and still does today.

Wishing you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Blessings,

**Rev Steve.**

**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\***

## CHURCH SERVICES - January St Nicholas, Stillington

### Priest:

Rev Stephen Whiting 810251  
[benefice.admin@gmail.com](mailto:benefice.admin@gmail.com)

### Lay Minister:

Margaret Price 811262  
[pricehm870@gmail.com](mailto:pricehm870@gmail.com)

### Church Wardens:

Janet Martin 822981  
[jessie.jm158@gmail.com](mailto:jessie.jm158@gmail.com)  
Richard Mapletoft 811854  
[rmapletoft@outlook.com](mailto:rmapletoft@outlook.com)

### Canon Emeritus:

Robert Law 810940  
[lrf43@kesonline.org](mailto:lrf43@kesonline.org)

### Worship in Church in January

**Sun 7th** Ecumenical Covenant 10.00am  
Communion at Huby Chapel.

No service at Stillington. An important service where we recommit to serving God and our neighbours

**Sun 14th** Morning Worship 10.00am

**Sun 21st** Holy Communion 10.00am

**Sun 28th** No service at Stillington 10.00am

You might support other Benefice services :  
10.00am Morning Worship at Sheriff Hutton or 10.30 Holy Communion at Farlington

### Visiting the church

The church is open every day, from nine or earlier until four.

### Prayers for the village

These are 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 (01347 811262; [pricehm870@gmail.com](mailto:pricehm870@gmail.com)) or leave a note in the side chapel of St Nicholas

### 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 a visit at home? Do make a phone call to arrange a convenient time. Margaret Price 01347 811262.

### St Nicholas Church Rota

1<sup>st</sup> January to 13<sup>th</sup> January

CLEANING Mrs P Clark

BRASSES Mr J Clark

15<sup>th</sup> January to 27<sup>th</sup> January

CLEANING Mrs J Martin

BRASSES Dr D Martin

### St Nicholas Flower Rota

31<sup>st</sup> Dec - Mrs R Bresnan

7<sup>th</sup> Jan - Mrs G Churton

14<sup>th</sup> Jan - Mrs G Churton

21<sup>st</sup> Jan - Mrs H Ratcliffe

28<sup>th</sup> Jan - Mrs B Milburn

## St Leonard's, Farlington

### Priest:

Revd Stephen Whiting 810251  
[benefice.admin@gmail.com](mailto:benefice.admin@gmail.com)

### Church Wardens:

Sally Wright 878745  
Richard Haste 878581  
[richardhaste@btinternet.com](mailto:richardhaste@btinternet.com)

**Welcome to 2024** – we wish you a very Happy New Year.

We start 2024 with the first in our cycle of services for the farming year – very appropriate for a church at the centre of an agricultural community. This is **Plough Sunday on January 14<sup>th</sup>**. The history for this service and its relationship to the church goes back a long way. The village plough was often kept in the church and bringing it out was a cause for celebration. Our Plough Sunday will celebrate the start of the farming cycle; seed and the ploughshare will be blessed and then we follow-up with a warming ploughman's lunch in the church. There is no charge for the lunch but donations will be welcomed. Why not come and join us – the service starts at **10.30am**.

**Sun 14<sup>th</sup>** Plough Sunday 10.30am  
service followed by a Ploughman's lunch

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am  
Holy Communion (BCP)

### Bingo!

On December 1<sup>st</sup> we ran our widely-renowned Grand Christmas Prize Bingo in Sheriff Hutton Village Hall. It was a great evening and raised £707 for the church. We give our thanks to everyone who contributed prizes for the event and the band of people who 'made it happen.'

### Christmas Cards

At the time of writing profits from the sale of Christmas cards, featuring St Leonard's church, had reached £710 – a magnificent result.

## Villages Together Methodist Church

### Minister:

Rev David Bidnell 01904 345429  
[david.bidnell@gmail.com](mailto:david.bidnell@gmail.com)

### Steward:

Robin Jackson 810250  
[robinjacksonwoodside@gmail.com](mailto:robinjacksonwoodside@gmail.com)

**Sun 7th** Huby 10.30am

United Covenant Service

**Sun 14th** Alne Hall 3pm

Rev Ruth Duck

**Sun 21st** Churches Together 10.30am  
at Easingwold

**Sun 28th** Tholthorpe 3pm

Holy Communion Rev Elizabeth Cushion

## St Mary's Marton

### Church Contact:

Caroline Hunt 878242  
[martonintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:martonintheforest@gmail.com)

Sue Whiting 810251

**We plan to have services at 3pm on Sunday 7th January and Sunday 21st January.** If the weather isn't looking too promising and you want to confirm we're going ahead before you set out, we will do our best to update any cancellations on our Facebook page [facebook.com/martonchurch](https://facebook.com/martonchurch) and website [achurchnearyou.com/church/18888/](https://achurchnearyou.com/church/18888/) or feel free to call Caroline on 878242 or the Vicarage on 810251.

As we look ahead to 2024, we are hoping to have a Quiet Day (focussing on 'rest'), and are also looking forward to our History Day on Saturday 17th August. If you have any stories of key people associated with Marton and Moxby, or photos e.g. of weddings or baptisms in church, do let us know!

Please remember the church is always open for visitors if you are looking for somewhere quiet and peaceful for a little while. We look forward to the snowdrops in the churchyard!

## 200 club results for October and November

### October

1st Mr J Pollack = £50

Runner-up, Mr J Hartley

Runner-up, Mr and Mrs G Baker

### November

1st Mrs S Coomer =£50

Runner-up, Mrs Y Murphy

Runner-up, Mr G Price

**I would also like to thank everyone involved in running and taking part in the 200 club, it is a successful village event.**