



Stillington News



Issue 362

email: news@stillingtonvillage.org

March 2025

Quiz Night in support of the Stillington News

Phil and Sue Robinson have very kindly agreed to hold a quiz night on **Sunday 2nd March at the White Bear.**

The quiz will start at 7:30pm with Claire Ryan as Quizmaster

Friends of Stillington School

Quiz Night

Friday 7th March, 7pm onwards

At Stillington Sports and Social Club

Stillington & District Community Archive AGM

**Wednesday 19th March
7:30pm Village Hall**

Followed by a presentation entitled:

'Charity in Stillington and Marton cum Moxby' by Liz Cole

New members welcome and refreshments will be served.

The Stillington Chilli Challenge 2025

Join us for a fun chilli-growing challenge, with all proceeds going to Cancer Research! This event is open to everyone if you can bring your plant to Stillington for judging. **The entry fee is £5 per person**, which includes two seeds, and each participant can enter one plant.

The first prize will be awarded to the grower of the first ripe chilli, while the second prize, judged four weeks later, will go to the person with the most chillies measuring over 10mm.

Prizes have been generously donated, including a £25 meal voucher from The Gulshan and The White Bear, as well as a bottle of house red or white wine from The Bay Tree and SSSC.

The first-place winner will select one meal voucher and one bottle of wine, with the remaining meal voucher and bottle of wine going to the second-place winner.

Registration closes on March 7, 2025, and seeds will be available for collection from March 17, 2025, with collection locations in Stillington to be confirmed.

For more details, visit the Stillington, York Community Group on Facebook under the "Files" section. **To register or ask any questions, you can text or call 07999 581084 or email**

stillychilli@gmail.com.

Get involved, have fun growing your chillies, and support a great cause!

Tuesday Pop-In

Brighten up grey mornings by joining friends for hot drinks, tasty treats, and good conversation. Meet new people, catch up with regulars, and discover weekly activities and events.

We meet at 10.30 am in the Village Hall, come along and enjoy!

Stillington Sports Club Open Mic Night

Come along and support us – great turnout last time!

Saturday March 29th at 8pm

Please email contributions for the **April 2025 issue to news@stillingtonvillage.org by Wednesday 19th of April 2025**. Submissions received after this date may not be included! If you would like to donate 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**. We operate on a budgetary constraint so any new donations would be gratefully received.

Stillington Gardening Club Newsletter March 2025



March Speaker

Roger Burnett will speak on "*Pelargoniums – Types, Propagation, Pests*" on **Wednesday, 26th March at 7:30 pm (doors open at 7:00 pm, refreshments available). Guests welcome!**

AGM

Our 2025 AGM is on **Wednesday, 30th April, at the Village Hall** followed by a talk on '*Alpines for Everyone*'.

2025 Plant Sale

Join us on Monday, 5th May (10 am–noon) at the Village Hall. Plants will be displayed outside (weather permitting), with coffee and scones served indoors.

Cemetery Hedge

Planted by SGC members and schoolchildren, the hedge is thriving. Most of the 195 saplings are above the railing and may soon need trimming!

March Gardening Tips

- Protect new spring shoots from slugs
- Plant shallots, onion sets, and early potatoes
- Plant summer-flowering bulbs
- Divide overgrown perennials
- Refresh container compost
- Mow the lawn on dry days
- Prune bush and climbing roses

Stillington Playing Fields Association and Sports & Social Club AGM

The forthcoming AGM is scheduled for March 18th starting at 7pm for Stillington Playing Fields Association, followed by Sports and Social Club. All welcome, however only members and social members of club sections will be eligible to vote on the night.

W.I. Report

If you think Occupational Therapists (OTs) just provide walking aids, think again! On February 12th Jenny and Ruth, experienced OTs, visited Stillington & Farlington WI to share insights into their work.

OTs are part of the Personalised Care Team, helping people manage health conditions, social isolation, and daily life challenges. They are trained in both mental and physical health, often visiting patients at home to assess needs firsthand. Advance Care Planning is a growing area, encouraging discussions about future care preferences—something worth considering.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 12th 7:30pm PM, Stillington Village Hall, talk by York Archaeological Trust. Visitors welcome (£4 incl. refreshments).

Book Sale: Saturday, March 29th 10am-12noon, Stillington Village Hall. Book donations from 9:30am.

BOOK SALE

Stillington Wanderers

27th January: walk started in Terrington, passing the extended Woodland Burial Ground, through Mowthorpe (where Ryedale students had cleared blackthorn), and ended in Ganthorpe.

10th February: walk from Coxwold via Oldstead was muddy, with snowdrops, primroses, and pussywillow in bloom. Polytunnels growing local produce and the closing of Coxwold's garage marked another change.

Upcoming walks: 10th and 24th March 2025. Meet outside the White Bear at 9:30am

Green Bin Licence

Residents can now purchase a £49 licence for the 2025 garden waste season, which includes fortnightly collections from March to December. **For more details, visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/garden-waste**

Stillington Parish Council

The Council meeting was on Wednesday 5th February 2025 in the Village Hall with Cllrs Christine Cookman (Chairman), Graham Taylor, Robert Churton, Cllr Tracy Sinclair together with 1 member of the public. North Yorkshire Cllr Malcolm Taylor was also present.

The Council noted the contribution the late Cllr Tim Milburn had made to the Council over the last two years.

Public Session

South Back Lane rat infestation and the blocked drain in Carr Lane.

North Yorkshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Taylor had reported on the budget, the affordable homes precept and the NYC local plan.

Bus Shelter

Following the bus shelter vandalism the Police had recovered £320 in damages from the perpetrators.

Pond

The tree works at the pond had been undertaken and the other maintenance would take place in spring. Food for the two geese would be supplied by the Council.

Dog Waste Bin

It was agreed that the need and location of an additional dog waste bin for Mill Lane would be discussed at the next meeting.

Vehicle Activated Speed Signs

A volunteer to look after the VAS signs had still not been found. If anyone is interested in taking on this role, please contact the Clerk.

Sewage Pump

The failure of the sewage pump on York Road was to be reported to Environmental Health by Cllr Taylor.

Wildflower Policy

Due to a lack of volunteers the formulation of a wildflower policy would not be pursued.

Bird Mouth Fencing

A survey would be conducted of the North Yorkshire Council bird mouth fencing in Main Street and High Street. They would then be asked to repair the rotten sections.

The meeting closed at 8.39pm

Next Meeting - Wednesday 5th March 2025 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm.

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

Stillington Village Hall

Please go to www.thevillagehallstillington.org and see all events under “calendar”

Quizzes at Sports and Social Club

In February, two tables shared the highest quiz score: Val & Dick Tregaea, and Marie & John Pollock, tied with Sue Pace, Geoff Bullock, Sarah Waudby, and Graham Pratt.

However, the latter lost due to a lower joker round score. £400 was raised for the church clock repair.

The final quiz of the season is on Friday, 7th March, for Friends of Stillington School.

Support your village Post Office and Stores.

You can become a shareholder and help your shop for only £10; call in for details.



Stillington Lent Group

A 6-week programme, all welcome.
Mondays 10th March to 14th April 2 - 3.30pm at 4, Parkfield

We will be discussing 'Caring for God's Creation', including food production, with a book from Operation Noah 'Tenants of the King', and 'Let's Talk about Food' produced by York Diocese Rural Life & Faith Group.

Call 01347 811262 for further information

Confirmation

Would you like to know more about the Christian faith and what leads up to being confirmed? We will be holding a four-week course in preparation for a Confirmation Service for Easingwold Deanery. The service itself will be at St Mary's, Strensall, in the afternoon of Sunday the 8th of June 2025. Rev Steve will lead a four-week preparation course beforehand. Please contact Rev Steve Whiting or Margaret Price if you would like to know more. Steve Whiting 01347 810251, email: revstevewhiting@gmail.com or Margaret Price 01347 811262, email: pricehm870@gmail.com

200 Club and Church Register

1st Mrs Y Murphy

R.U. Mr B Rawling

3rd Mr and Mrs G Baker

Drawn by "Our Ernie"

Funerals were held at St. Nicholas' Church on the 21st of January for Celia Dobson, and on the 30th of January for Tim Milburn.



Eco Tips March

Each month, we share simple ways to reduce carbon emissions.

Shopping Sustainably

1. **Plan Ahead:** Make a shopping list to avoid impulse buys and food waste.
2. **Choose Wisely:** Research big purchases for longevity, efficiency, materials, origin, and recyclability. Try to buy second-hand, opting for pre-owned items from charity shops or online.
3. **Appreciate Nature:** Take a walk or observe from your window, recognising our dependence on the natural world.



Countryside News, March 2025

February is slipping away quickly, bringing more shivers than sunshine. With damp, cold days and endless drizzle, it's been ideal weather for staying by the fire, as my father would say.

The bird feeders have been bustling, especially with a family of long-tailed tits darting in for peanuts. Soon, the young ones will leave to build nests of their own. Tree sparrows, once scarce, have returned to our feeders, which is a welcome sight.

Yesterday, six mallard drakes gathered on the pond—surprisingly still unpaired. Perhaps the milder weather ahead will stir their instincts. Speaking of birds, have you noticed the greylag geese on the wheat field beyond the Mill? They seem to be feeding on rotting potatoes alongside mute swans. Whooper swans, with their yellow bills and elegant posture, have also been spotted; soon, they'll head north to breed.

Despite the gloomy weather, snowdrops are thriving, their clusters brightening the landscape. They vary in size and shape, some tall and double, others small and early bloomers. Once flowering ends, it's the perfect time to split and transplant them.

I'm listening for the first calls of the curlew as they leave the shore for the Pennines. Their distinctive sound, paired with skylarks singing on a sunny day, is the essence of spring. Last week, a mistle thrush sang from a sycamore—one of the first signs of nesting season.

Nature always has room for more life—watch closely, and you'll be rewarded

R&M

Marton Church Electoral Roll Update

We are revising our Electoral Roll by April/May. All previous members must renew their application—forms are available on the church font.

New members are welcome! Residents of Marton and Moxby who are baptised and consider themselves members of the Church of England are eligible. Non-residents who have regularly attended services for the past six months may also apply. You can be on multiple rolls if you meet the criteria.

Being on the Electoral Roll allows you to vote on church matters and contribute to decision-making. A healthy roll determines our PCC (Parochial Church Council) size, helping us maintain St. Mary's Marton, our lovely, ancient church.

For application forms, contact Caroline at 01347878242 or martonintheforest@gmail.com

Stillington Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Use of NHS APP

If you are comfortable using Mobile phone, iPad, Laptop or Computer Apps we would actively encourage you to maximise the use of the NHS App. You can use the NHS App to view and manage prescriptions, order repeat prescriptions, check availability of appointments and book a time/date, see results and history from either GP or Hospital tests, see history of letters on file and much, much more. Your increased use of NHS App reduces the workload and time pressures on our Surgery Staff, saves you time and puts more information at your fingertips.

One of our PPG members, Chris, is available to help you start or enhance the use of your NHS APP on a one-to-one basis. **All "training" sessions are from 14.00 to 16.00 hours and dates are: -**

Friday 28th March, Friday 2nd May, Friday 6th June.

Please let the Surgery know if you wish to attend a particular training session to assist our resource planning.

When attending, please bring along your own device to be used for NHS APP access.

Further dates and/or times can be provided if necessary. Patients who cannot or do not wish to use the NHS App can still make prescription requests and GP/Nurse appointments in the current way.

St. Nicholas' Church Services

Priest: Steve Whiting 01347 810251 revstevewhiting@gmail.com

Lay Minister: Margaret Price 01347 811262 pricehm870@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Janet Martin 01347 822981 jessie.jm158@gmail.com

Richard Mapletoft 01347 811854 rmapletoft@outlook.com

Canon Emeritus: Robert Law 01347 810940 lrf43@kesonline.org

Worship in Church in March

Sunday March 2nd 10.00am. - Morning Worship.

Wednesday March 5th 2.00pm. Ash Wednesday Holy Communion, commemorating the start of Lent. For the whole benefice (i.e. local area).

Sunday March 9th 10.00am - Morning Worship.

Sunday March 16th 10.00am - Holy Communion.

Sunday March 23rd 10.00am- Morning Prayer.

Sunday March 30th 10.00am - Mothering Sunday and Ecumenical Morning Praise. All are welcome in this family service to celebrate our mothers and motherhood.

Visiting the church: The church is open every day, from 9am or earlier until 4pm.

Prayers for the village take place every Thursday at 9am. If you would like to join us or prayers said, please contact Margaret Price (contact as above) or leave a note in the side chapel of St. Nicholas.

St. Mary's Church, Marton in the Forest

We plan to have 2 services in March, both at 3pm:

Sunday 2nd March - Celtic Holy Communion

Sunday 16th March - Celtic Worship

This month, we celebrate the joyful arrival of daffodils! A big thank you to Rome and Sarah for clearing ground ivy and planting more snowdrops beneath the trees on the church's south side. We plan to introduce more native wildflowers and will trial a spring scythe to manage grasses and support diverse plant growth. Thanks to a grant from Sheriff Hutton Village Markets, a new picnic bench is also on its way. Visitors are always welcome to enjoy our church and churchyard.

St. Nicholas' Church Cleaning Rota 10th to 22nd March - Cleaning – Mrs

A Hope **Brasses** - Mrs J Sheffield

24th March to 5th April - Cleaning -
Mrs H Ratcliffe **Brasses** – Mr A Ratcliffe

Villages Together Methodist Church

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

Stillington Contact - Robin Jackson 810250
robinjacksonwoodside@gmail.com

Services for March

Sunday 2nd March - 10:30am Huby,

Ecumenical Covenant Service

Rev. David Bidnell and Margaret Price

Sunday 9th March 3pm - Alne Hall Rev.
Andrew Foster

Sunday 16th March 10:30am - Huby Café-
style own arrangement service

Sunday 23rd March 3pm - Tholthorpe Service
of Holy Communion led by Rev. David Bidnell

Mothering Sunday

Sunday 30th March 10:00am St. Nicholas,
joint service everyone welcome.

Villages' Newsletter – March 2025

For me, March heralds the arrival of spring. While the clocks 'spring forward' at the end of the month and the equinox falls on the 20th, it's nature's awakening that truly marks the season. Birds begin nesting—perhaps even in my roof again if I don't replace the broken soffits! Outside my office, the beech hedge comes alive as fresh green shoots push off last year's leaves, and sparrows chatter boldly, teasing the neighbours' cats.

Driving through the countryside, I watch for hares—usually elusive but now emboldened, boxing or dashing wildly across the fields. *Mad as a March hare!*

The sun gains strength, pushing away the gloom of January and February, those sluggish post-Christmas months. Nature stirs, responding to the promise of warmth.

William Wordsworth captured this renewal beautifully in *Lines Written in Early Spring*, reflecting on nature's harmony and humanity's disconnection from it: *The budding twigs spread out their fan,
To catch the breezy air;
And I must think, do all I can,
That there was pleasure there.*

May we all rediscover our connection with nature—and with each other.

Every blessing, Reverend John

