

Stillington News

March 2026, Issue 374

Email: news@stillingtonvillage.org



Fundraising Thank You.

The Village News team would like to express its heartfelt thanks to the White Bear for organising and hosting their February quiz in aid of the newsletter.

Stillington Village Hall

Coffee Morning and Book Sale

Saturday 21st March

9.30 - 12pm

Books to be dropped off from 9am

BOOK SALE

Foodbank Donations



We are so grateful for your contributions to the Foodbank box which is in the church porch. You will find a list of the things we most need next to the box. Just a reminder: we cannot take fresh food or anything that has an out-of-date code. Many thanks, Alan Hetherington

STILLINGTON SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

What's On in March!

Friday 6th March

Quiz Night

7.30pm Start

Six Nations - Ireland v Wales 20.40 KO

Saturday 7th March

Scotland v France 14.10 KO

Italy v England 16.40 KO

Saturday 14th March

Wales v Italy 16.45 KO

Ireland v Scotland 14.10 KO

France v England 20.10

Friday 20th March

Quiz Night

Starts 7.30pm

Join us for our regular quizzes with a different quiz master each month. Everyone chimel!

7.30pm start

Come and support your local sports club!

Stillington Post Office and Stores



After the closure of Easingwold Post Office towards the end of last year our Post Office has become much busier. Lots more customers, causing the inevitable queues and lots more parcels and post bags. Our post is collected at 5pm. weekdays and 11am. on Saturdays so if you can avoid the busier times of Monday and Friday mornings that would be helpful. Our staff are working very hard to keep things moving as quickly as possible and we ask for your patience and support, thank you.

Recycling. We now have a bin for recycling your old spectacles and hearing aids and we continue to recycle egg boxes and used stamps.

Easter Weekend Opening Times

Good Friday (April 3rd): Shop 6.30am - 10.30am
Post Office will be closed

Easter Saturday (April 4th): Shop 6.30 - 1.00pm
Post Office 9.00am - 12.30pm

Easter Monday (April 6th): Shop 6.30am - 10.30am
Post Office will be closed



Stillington Crafty Ninjas

👤 – a stunning post box topper celebrating the 2026 Winter Olympics.

Notes from the Editors

We strive to publish as much village news as possible, however with space and budget constraints it is becoming challenging. With that in mind, please could contributors work within a 350-word restraint? This means more people can have an input into the newsletter. Many thanks, Lorraine and Wanda.

Please email contributions for the April 2026 issue to news@stillingtonvillage.org by Thursday 19th of March. 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.

Thank you to all our regular contributors who have made their annual donations. We're delighted to share that, thanks to your generosity, we are able to cover a further 12 months of printing costs.

Stillington Bowling Club Open Day - Sunday 12th April

If you are interested in trying lawn green bowls, then please come down to our free open day on Sunday 12th April from 2pm. **Our green and clubhouse are located behind the Stillington Sports and Social Club off York Road in Stillington. We have a stock of loan equipment and coaches will be on hand to show you how to play.** Please wear soft, flat soled shoes (no heels). Bowling is a fun, accessible sport. You can play purely socially, join internal club competitions or play in our local leagues. If you cannot make that day, then social bowling and coaching will be held every Wednesday evening from 7.00pm starting on 15th April. For more information, please contact Nigel Marsh 07869 467541 or cilmorfa1956@gmail.com.



Stillington Good Neighbours

Our group, which comprises of nine volunteers, continues to back up and support the generosity that is a feature of our village. We continue to welcome new residents and new babies to the village, and to show sympathy to the bereaved and sick giving support when needed. The group recognises and thanks the church and Stillington Charity for funding Graham Cookman who updates and prints our *Welcome to Stillington* booklet, and to the Village Shop for supplying the £10 vouchers to new residents. **The success of the scheme is largely dependent on good communication and therefore we are always grateful for the passing on of relevant information.**

We would like to welcome our newcomers to the group: Christine Shires and Margaret Allinson.

Volunteers and their areas: Tricia Walker (group coordinator), 810562- Main Street, Soutersfield.

Margaret Hetherington, 810373 - eastern end of South Back Lane.

Adryenne Hope, 811039 - North Back Lane western end and north side of High Street, Easingwold Road.

Diana Mitchinson, 07971291594 - The Green and Mill Lane.

Margaret Price, 811262 - Parkfield. Bev Law, 810940 - Parkfield.

Christine Shires, 07773606062 - western end of South Back Lane.

W.I. Report

In February Robin Jackson shared some of his broad knowledge of wood, varieties of trees, their different grain and colour. He showed us samples from his vast collection, explaining particular features and the reasons for them. Then the best part (I think) some of the pieces he has made - a platter, candlesticks and a beautiful model of a leveret. Truly "wonderful wood".

Next month our speaker is Dave Thompson who will tell us about his career in the Fire Service. 11th March, Village Hall, 7:30, £4 for visitors. A reminder that the book sale is in the Village Hall on Saturday 21st March from 9:30am, but you can bring your books from 9:00am on the day. Any queries phone Mary - 01347 810476

Stillington Surgery

29 Nursing Appointments were not attended by patients during January. This equates to 7 hours 20 mins of nursing time and results in other patients having to wait longer for an appointment. **Please always try to keep your appointment or let us know in reasonable time if you are genuinely unable to do so.**

Patients who fail to attend on a regular basis may be asked to register elsewhere. Drs Metcalfe and Keen

200 Club results: 1st Mr L Bresnen; 2nd

Thomas Clark; 3rd Mrs K Midgley, drawn by Our Ernie

Stillington and District Archive Group

Marion Moverley gave a fascinating talk on 21st January to the Archive meeting, entitled Feast Days, looking at how the passage of time was kept and recorded before there were diaries or calendars. Saints' Days, Christian Festivals and Quarter Days all proved their worth; days and places were marked by saints' names. Christian festivals which weren't moveable feasts - these were any dates associated to Easter Day, which is the Sunday following the Paschal full moon - were also useful markers.

The Quarter Days are: Lady Day 25th March, which was when farms changed hands and contracts started, it was also New Year's Day until changed to 1st January in 1752 by Act of Parliament; Midsummer's Day 24th June, the Feast Day of St John the Baptist; Michaelmas Day 29th September and Christmas Day 25th December. Quakers had a simpler way of recording the passage of time. They didn't recognise saints' days or Roman and Norse gods, they just used numbers. So, the 6th day of the 5th month plus the year would be 6th May. Coupled with calendar changes, which were often not recognised for many years, this can make the work of historians and ancestry searches quite problematic.

The next Archive meeting on Wednesday 18th March at 7.30pm will include a short AGM followed by a talk on Trees of Yorkshire by Alan Hunton. This will also be an opportunity to pay subs for the new year and pick up a programme for 2026/27.

Stillington Gardening Club

March Speaker - On Wednesday 25th March our guest speaker will be Faith Douglas. Her topic is "Thorpe Perrow Arboretum." Again, do bring a friend/guest to the talk, they may wish to join the Club at a later stage. Doors open at 7pm and the talk begins at 7.30pm, Refreshments will be available from 7pm.

AGM - The 2026 AGM will be held on Wednesday 29th April, it will be followed by a talk on Beningbrough - "Treasurer's House and Goddards." (Beningbrough's, Goddards Garden Centre)

2026 Plant Sale - This will be held on **Monday 4th May**, it will follow the very successful format of last year: except it will be held in the Village Hall. Delicious scones and coffee will be served inside. 10am to Noon.

March Tips for the Garden: **1.** Protect new spring shoots from slugs. **2.** Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes. **3.** Plant summer-flowering bulbs. **4.** Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials. **5.** Top dress containers with fresh compost. **6.** Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed). **7.** Prune bush and climbing roses.

Quiz at the Sports and Social Club - The Newton-on-Ouse team, of Barbara Watson, Jennifer, Fiona Smith and Peter Gillingham, won the February quiz with three teams within a point of each other. £358 was raised for the Stillington Archive group to help with their new social history project. **6th March, final quiz this season, will be for the Friends of Stillington School. All welcome.**



Stillington Community Primary School

It has been another busy and exciting half-term across school, with all year groups immersing themselves in their engaging new topics!

In EYFS, the children have been thoroughly enjoying their exploration of animals. From learning about different habitats and life cycles to discussing pets and wild animals, the children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm. Through stories, creative play and hands-on activities, they have been developing their understanding of the animal world around them.

In Key Stage 1, pupils have been travelling around the globe to explore a range of habitats. They have compared hot and cold climates, discovered rainforest creatures and learned how animals adapt to survive in different environments. It has been wonderful to see their growing geographical knowledge and thoughtful discussions about the wider world.

Meanwhile, Key Stage 2 have stepped back in time to study Ancient Greece. They have explored Greek myths, democracy, architecture and the impact Ancient Greece has had on modern life. The children have particularly enjoyed learning about the origins of the Olympic Games.

If you would like to arrange a visit to our school to see the fantastic learning that is taking place, please contact the school office via: stillingtonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk for more information or to book a visit. Thanks, Miss India Tordoff, Head of School

Stillington Wanderers

Finding paths with the least mud and water has been a priority this winter; meandering through Easingwold's recent housing developments helped for 26th January walk combining Knott Lane over the A19, onto Crankley Lane, past the well-named Traveller's Rest, before re-crossing A19 and back along Alne Road. Boroughbridge on 9th February, parking and then walking alongside River Ure (real-time water level data can be obtained from the Boroughbridge gauging station); walking over Milby Lock, through Mill Farm to Milby and back along Moor Lane, parallel to A1(M), and along the riverside gardens of Skelton Lane.

Next walks: 9th and 23rd March. Meet outside the White Bear at 9.30am.

Countryside Notes

Tuesday 17th February, a cold bright day after a light frost, and very little rain in the last 24 hours. The land is very wet and soggy. The ewes are still out and yesterday we moved them onto the Fodder Beet as the grass was getting deeply poached on the permanent pasture where we will need to lamb on in late April. The corn land is standing up to the wet very well, all things considered.

The pond is rather full and looks denuded after the autumn work of clearing Bulrush and Flag Iris, making little cover for the aquatic birds. Last Sunday morning a pair of Teal Ducks landed, it has been a while since we have seen Teal on the pond. These little ducks are numerous where there is flood water and congregate in massive flocks at times. The Teal is a fast flyer, rising almost vertical when disturbed, and are called Springing Teal. They will pair and nest by local ponds and waterways. Monday saw a pair of Mallard, who use the pond rather warily and have nested with us before but when the family is disturbed they move, probably to the Foss. The sunshine made the drake most handsome, with his green head and blue speculum feathers in his wings and, of course, the curly black feather in his tail and with his sombre lady by his side.

We have about nine Hen Pheasants who come to eat corn put out for the Finches. They also like finding the crumbs under the hanging bird feeders. However, they are pecking at the new foliage of the Daffodils and Crocus, not so amusing! They are very wary of the handsome males that come. We especially enjoy the Long-tailed Tits, where up to eight have come together, a whole family. Lately they have split up a bit as some will be starting nesting. We also have a pair of Greater Spotted Woodpeckers who come for the peanuts singly. The male bird has a crimson patch on the back of the neck. R & M

Marking the Month Together

March is one of those months that quietly gathers meaning as it goes along. Some dates will pass us by without much notice, while others may strike a deeper chord, depending on our stories and experiences. The month opens with St David's Day on the 1st, a reminder of cultural identity and the strength that comes from belonging. International Women's Day on the 8th invites us to celebrate the achievements, resilience, and contribution of women in every walk of life. Mothering Sunday follows on the 15th, a day that can be joyful, complicated, tender, or all three at once, and one that gently reminds us of the importance of care, gratitude, and nurture. St Patrick's Day arrives on the 17th, bringing with it colour, humour, and a reminder of faith expressed through everyday life. And as the clocks move forward on the 29th, we also reach Palm Sunday, marking the beginning of Holy Week, alongside the welcome promise of lighter evenings and warmer days. All this got me thinking about how meaning is often found not only in big moments, but in the small, shared rhythms of life. Dates in the diary matter because they help us pause, remember, celebrate, or reflect. They remind us that we are part of something wider than ourselves – a community, a nation, a shared human story. Whether you are someone who regularly worships in church, someone who hasn't been for years, or someone who simply enjoys village life, this season offers an invitation. An invitation to notice one another, to show kindness, to listen well, and to take hope from the fact that change is possible – in the natural world, in our communities, and in ourselves. As spring unfolds, may March be a month that brings encouragement, connection, and renewed hope for us all. Rev Steve

Inviting you to the Lent Course

run by the Forest of Galtres Benefice

A Christian Response to...

IN SUTTON CHURCH ROOM YO61 1DW (beside the church)

Mondays 2.00 – 3.30pm

We will be led by visiting speakers each week (some homegrown, others brought in especially), there will be time for questions and discussion and the obligatory cup of tea/coffee and biscuits.

Date	A Christian Response to...	Leader
February 23 rd	...Our Changing Climate	Margaret Price, Lay Minister, Forest of Galtres Benefice
March 2 nd	...Immigration/Emigration – a challenge for our overcrowded and turbulent world	Revd Steve Whiting, Priest in Charge, Forest of Galtres Benefice
March 9 th	...Seeking wisdom in a digital age	Laura Beesley, Head of Communications, Diocese of York
March 16 th	...Racial Justice	Gerald Fox, Racial Justice Education Adviser Diocese of York
March 23 rd	...AI and identity – What does it mean to be human	Revd Nikki Eastwood, Area Dean Easingwold Deanery
March 30 th	...The food we eat (Let's talk about food)	Margaret Price, Lay Minister Forest of Galtres Benefice

St Nicholas' Church

Priest: Steve Whiting, 01347 810251 - revstevewhiting@gmail.com / Lay Minister: Margaret Price, 01347 811262 - pricehm870@gmail.com / Churchwarden: Richard Mapletoft, 01347 811854 - rmapletoft@outlook.com / Canon Emeritus: Robert Law, 01347 810940 - lrf43@kesonline.org

Worship in Church in March:

- **Sunday 1st 10.00am** - *This is Your Life, St David*. A celebration of the life of the patron saint of Wales.
- **Sunday 8th No service at Stillington**. Services at: Sutton (8.00am Holy Communion); Sheriff Hutton (10.00am Holy Communion); Farlington (10.30am Shortened Matins)
- **Sunday 15th 10.00am** - Mothering Sunday Holy Communion, always a lovely celebration.
- **Sunday 22nd 10.00am** - Morning Worship, Passiontide begins.
- **Sunday 29th 10.00am** - *Palm Sunday Churches Together* at Sutton. All congregations in the five villages worship together on this joyous occasion: no other services in the benefice.

Visiting the church: The church is open every day, from 9.00am (or earlier) until 4.00pm.

Prayers for the village take place every Thursday at 9.00am. If you would like to join us or if you would like prayers said please contact Margaret Price (01347 811262; pricehm870@gmail.com) or leave a note in the side chapel of St Nicholas.

Holy Communion at home: If you cannot come to Church on Sunday mornings would you like a visit at home? Phone to arrange a convenient time. Margaret Price 01347 811262.

Flower Rota for March into Easter: Sunday 1st until Saturday 4th April is Lent. Sunday 15th is Mothering Sunday. **ALL HELP will be needed on Saturday 4th April at 10.00am to decorate the church for Easter.**

Villages Together Methodist Church Services for March

- **Sunday 1st** - Huby Methodist Church at 10.30am, Rev Alex Middleton-Laing, with communion, joined by Easingwold Church
- **Sunday 8th** - Alne at 3.00pm, Rev A M-L.
- **Sunday 15th** - Huby Methodist Church at 10.30am, Rev A M-L.
- **Sunday 22nd** - Tholthorpe Methodist Church at 3.00pm, Rev A M-L, with communion
- **Sunday 29th** - Palm Sunday, St Nicholas' Church Stillington at 10.00am, ecumenical service, Rev A M-L, (alex.laing@methodist.org.uk)

Everyone is warmly invited to join us at any of these services. Contact Robin Jackson 01347 810250 for more information.

St Leonard's, Farlington

By the time you read this the spring flowers in the churchyard should be offering a welcome blaze of colour and they should not need watering!

Services in March: Sunday 8th - 10.30am Shortened Matins (BCP); Sunday 22nd - 10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

St Mary's Church, Marton in the Forest

Marton Church and churchyard are open daily to visitors, and we are now registered as a Pilgrim Place with the Small Pilgrim Places' Network and the Church of England's 'Faith in the North' project. You don't HAVE to wear a rucksack, tufty beard and shorts to be a pilgrim - it's just a word to describe someone on some sort of a journey - and everyone is welcome to journey to Marton, whether it's because you like old churches, wild churchyards, peace and quiet, birdsong, history, countryside views, labyrinths or a nicely placed picnic table! We have had a lovely showing of snowdrops this year and look forward to the daffodils in March.

Our services in March will be at **3.00pm** on **Sunday 1st** (Celtic Communion) and **Sunday 15th** (Celtic Worship).

Weather permitting, there will also be a Quiet Dawn Easter Vigil in the churchyard on Sunday 5th April at 6.00am. If the clouds stay away, this is a wonderful way to greet a new morning, surrounded with birdsong!