STILLINGTON NEWS

November 2026 Issue 382

Email: news@stillingtonvillage.org

Stillington Gardening Club Christmas Party Wednesday 25th November

Everyone seemed to appreciate the party in November last year, to save clashes with other village events. We are going to hold our Christmas Party again in November. This is always a good evening with lots of food, drink and music. Tickets will again be £8.00 each, this will include the first drink, cocktail nibbles to start followed by a nice meal. By popular request, there will be some entertainment during the meal.

Tickets for the Christmas Party will be available from the Village Shop from early November.

Seed Sale – Dobies - I still have a few Dobies' seed catalogues available. It is not too late to send in your order form. Don't forget with our Group Scheme members receive a 50% discount.

Speakers' Evening - Our next Speakers' evening will be on **Wednesday 27th January 2027**, Gardening the Globe, Commonwealth War Graves. You are very welcome to bring a guest.

Stillington Village Bonfire Saturday 7th November

This year's bonfire will take place on **Saturday 7th November** in the field south of Stillington Sports and Social Club. The torchlight procession leaves the Village Hall at **6.45pm**, with the bonfire lit on arrival. Fireworks start at **7.30pm**, and hot food and drinks will be available to buy.

For safety, the High Street and York Road will be closed to traffic from 6.45 to 7.15pm by an approved traffic management company. Please wear boots or wellies. Private fireworks, sparklers and alcohol are not permitted in the procession or on the field.

Admission: Free for children of school age and younger. Adults: £5.00 on the night (cash only) or £4.00 in advance, available from the Post Office.

Bonfire material collection - Tractors will collect suitable burning material around the village between **9.00am and noon** on the day. We cannot take mattresses, cushioned furniture, plastics or glass. If you have a large amount to collect, please be ready to help load the trailers and call Andy on **810598** so we can try to collect it earlier in the week. **Please help!**

This popular village event depends on your support. If you can help set up the field or collect rubbish, please meet at the Village Hall at **9.00am** on the day. We also need stewards during the event. Please contact Graham Cookman on **810047** or Andy Hart on **810598**.

Thank you for helping to make our village bonfire a success!

Stillington Short Mat Bowls' Club

Two new dates have been added to 'the come and have a go' sessions in the Village Hall. All are welcome on **Tuesdays 10th November and 8th December at 7.00pm**. Please wear flat-soled shoes; bowls are provided.

Do come for a coffee to our Pop In at the Village Hall – every Tuesday from 10.30am. See you there!

Notes from the Editors - Please email contributions for the December issue to news@stillingtonvillage.org by **WEDNESDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2026**. (Please note the date is early due to commitments and printing deadlines.) Submissions received after this date may not be included.

A magical star is seen in the Eastern skies pointing the way to a secret treasure. Two rascally shepherds and their naughty sheep, Jumper, hatch a cheeky plan to steal the star and make their fortunes. But their perfect plan is about to get derailed by amazing angels, crazy carpenters and a wise man with a wool allergy. The first Christmas is about to get messy in this hilarious story filled with heart and hope.

Join Riding Lights Theatre Company as they bring a crooked comedy, jam-packed with surprising shepherds, silly sheep, slapstick songs, a spectacular star and a secret treasure to be found at the very heart of Christmas. Written by Rachel Price (playwright of last year's Christmas Inn Trouble), and with the same cast, this inventive and original take on the Nativity story will delight audiences of all ages. It is so good, you'll want Christmas every year!

Sunday November 29th 3.00pm Sheriff Hutton Village Hall, doors open 2.30pm, Adults £7.50; Under 16s £5.00 Contact (box office) Richard Mapletoft: rmapletoft@outlook.com 01347 811854

Some reviews of last year's production: "A magical new twist on the Nativity," Charles Hutchinson, York Evening Press; "A production which is equal fun for adults and children," **** The Reviews Hub "Zany, energetic and ripe with well-honed slapstick and physical comedy," ***** Review Wizard; "The children (about 200) absolutely loved it, staying engaged throughout, which is quite a feat!" School Teacher

Stillington SURGERY

Stillington Surgery thanks all the patients who have supported our seasonal vaccination campaigns.

We regularly invite patients to book in for their annual review. When you receive your invitation, please book in promptly and attend your appointment. Our teams spend a considerable amount of time following up patients who have either not booked in or who simply do not attend their appointment, costing valuable nursing time. Any non-attendance can delay the issue of your medication and can cause unnecessary delay for others wishing to access our services.

Thank you for your continued support,
Drs Metcalfe and Keen

QUIZ

General Knowledge Quiz at the Sports and Social Club raised £263 for Stillington Good Neighbour scheme. Winning team: Fiona Smith, Peter Gillingham and David Turvey.

Friday 6th November 2026 quiz will be for the Tennis Club.

STILLINGTON GARDENING CLUB

Gardening Tips for November:

1.Clear up fallen leaves especially from lawns, ponds and beds.
2. Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging.
3. Plant bulbs for spring display next year.
4. Prune roses to prevent wind-rock.
5. Plant out winter bedding plants.
6. Cover brassicas with netting if you have a pigeon problem.
7. Insulate outside containers from frost, bubble wrap?
8. Stop winter moth damage on fruit trees by using grease bands around the trunk.
9. Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into your garden.
10. Use the Village Bonfire for your garden debris.

Stillington Wanderers - Eight wanderers enjoyed the sunny autumn walk east along Caulkley's Bank on 5 October, with clear views towards the Wolds and North York Moors. From West Ness, we followed the River Rye to Nunnington Hall, views of which now much improved by strategic tree pruning. Then heading south, and steep climb through Nunnington village, past the church and along the farm track, passing a new well-built stone cairn, to our cars. No Walk Monday 19th October with many walkers away and it was Tim Drew's funeral.

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

Stillington Tennis Club held an American Tournament on a sunny afternoon on Saturday 26th September. With a good turnout and fun competition, the winners were Caroline Posliff and Tim Adams. Thanks to Tim Madgwick and Anne Barfoot for organising.

Stillington Squash Club:

Three men's teams and one women's team are playing in the winter York and District league. Marie Elcock and Dianne Fenwick have had great success in the Ladies' European Racketball competition: Marie won silver in the Over 40s, Dianne bronze in the Over 50s and they won gold together in the Doubles.

Brenda Milburn would like friends and acquaintances to know that she is now residing at Haxby Hall. She looks forward to seeing familiar faces and catching up with old friends.
Haxby Hall, York Road, Haxby, York, YO32 3DX
Telephone - 01904 202555

Ladies of Stillington - We have a monthly Ladies' Lunch at the Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except July & August). It is a fabulous get-together with the opportunity to meet up with old friends, and new.

Would you like to join us? Your first lunch is as a guest (contact the team), you come along and meet everyone with no charge and no commitment. If you enjoy it then you may join as a member and will be asked to bring along something to eat or drink each month to share the load. It may be cheese, a dessert, a bottle of wine or fruit juice, a vegetable dish or a main. Each month will be something different. You may also join with a hosting team (which changes each month) if you are able to.

There are subs of £5 payable twice a year in February and September.

It's a great opportunity for a regular sociable meet up, it's fun, entertaining and an easy way to make new friends in the community. Plus, the bonus of a lovely meal.

Please feel free to contact the team for information and request a guest visit:
julia.crawford1@btinternet.com, judithfearns@icloud.com, alisongriceholt@btinternet.com

Play Area: Annual inspection of the play area has highlighted ongoing repairs and the overall surface which we know needs attention – both draining and a renewed surface. There will be a financial contribution towards improving the play area relating to the new South Back Lane housing development. Members are also looking into additional funding sources. The trustees welcome anyone who'd like to help with the project. Please leave your details with the Sports and Social Club.

Many thanks to those who swept up the profusion of beech nuts near St Nicholas' Church. It's much appreciated, especially by those who have difficulty walking.

Stillington Primary School

NORTH YORKSHIRE
RURAL SCHOOLS FEDERATION

We have had a fantastic start to the autumn term at Stillington Primary School, with lots of exciting learning taking place across the school. We were delighted to come together in our village church to celebrate our Harvest Festival. It was a lovely opportunity for our school community to reflect on the importance of gratitude, kindness and helping others. The children enjoyed sharing this special occasion with families and friends.

Across school, our children have been busy exploring some fascinating topics!

EYFS have been enjoying their All About Me topic, celebrating what makes each child special and unique. They have been learning about themselves, their families, friendships and the importance of belonging to our school community.

Key Stage 1 have been finding out about The Great Fire of London, exploring how the fire started, why it spread so quickly and how London changed as a result.

Key Stage 2 have travelled back thousands of years to explore Prehistoric Britain, discovering what life was like during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They have enjoyed learning about how early humans lived, survived and developed their communities.

Come and Visit Our School - At Stillington, we are incredibly proud of our welcoming and inclusive school, where every child is valued, supported and encouraged to flourish. We warmly welcome prospective parents and families to come and see our school, meet our wonderful pupils and staff to experience what makes Stillington such a special place to learn and grow. Please contact the school office to arrange a visit via stillingtonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk

Countryside Notes - Sunday, 18th October, another fine, bright, autumnal day after a cool start. The month has been largely dry with occasional showers. Some of our smallest birds, like Tits and Wrens, their feathers can weigh more than the actual bird and carry about 2000 feathers with them. These feathers are made to help the bird exist in the cold of winter or cool of summer, others for camouflage but very different feathers to fly having several different shapes and sizes fitting together like a good pack of cards. Of course, they need special tail feathers like the Peacock for courtship but, more importantly, these strong stiff feathers are used in steering the bird in flight. The body feathers of a bird have down at the quill end and these can be puffed out to be filled with air and the upper part of the feather acts as a thatch against rain and wind, keeping our little friends warm and dry. The old eiderdown quilts were stuffed with the down of Eider Ducks to keep us warm. Feathers need to be looked after, like our hair. These feather hairdos are called preening, when the stronger hair-like parts of the feather are teased out and put in place, no crimping or curlers! These hairs are given a row of minute hooks down one side and grippy bits at the other so they come together and so the wind in flight goes round the wing and not through it, giving the bird traction. Many of the Waterfowl have their own supply of Head and Shoulders which is situated near the tail on the back of the bird where oil, produced in a duct accessible to the bird's beak, can be obtained for water-proofing the feathers to aid buoyancy and cleansing. Now, after all that, pick up a strong feather and part the hairs, then see how they come back into line with a careful touch. Enjoy the colours of the month. R & M

Stillington Harvest Supper

We had an amazing evening, with fabulous food and company. The Harvest Supper is a brilliant, annual event which takes place at the Village Hall, food provided by the members of the PCC and the wider community. Don't miss out next year, get your ticket from the village shop and come along! Many thanks to Margaret Tomlinson for coordinating the supper and to Richard Mapletoft for the entertainment.

Harvest Festival at St Nicholas' Church

St Nicholas' Church celebrated its Harvest Festival on Sunday 11th October. The church looked beautiful, adorned with lovely floral displays, while an array of fresh fruit and vegetables was thoughtfully arranged in the windows and around the font, creating a wonderful display in celebration of the harvest season.

St Nicholas' Church

Lay Minister: Margaret Price 01347 811262 pricehm870@gmail.com **Churchwardens**: Richard Mapletoft 01347 811854 rmapletoft@outlook.com, Alison Holt 01347 810407 alisongriceholt@btinternet.com
Canon Emeritus: Robert Law 01347 810940 lrf43@kesonline.org
Worship in Church in November: All are most welcome for every service.
Sunday 1st 10.00am Morning Worship
4.00pm Memorial Service, especially for those bereaved in the last two years. Margaret Price, Lay Minister 07528 768848
Sunday 8th 10.30am Remembrance Sunday Service: one of the important days of the year
Wednesday 11th 10.45am Remembrance Service on Armistice Day, around the Field of Remembrance. Outdoors if possible, joining students and members of staff from Stillington School.
Sunday 15th 10.00am at Sutton with Bishop Flora. No service at Stillington.
Sunday 22nd 10.00am Morning Praise
Sunday 29th 10.30am Advent Carols at Farlington with Archdeacon Liz Hassall; join in with the local five Churches together.
3.00pm **No service**, but: A Very Crooked Christmas at Sheriff Hutton Village Hall. (Advert on Page 2.)
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 have prayers said please contact Margaret Price 01347 811262; pricehm870@gmail.com or leave a note in the side chapel.
Holy Communion at home: If you cannot come to Church on Sunday mornings would you like a visit at home? Do make a phone call to arrange a convenient time: Margaret Price 01347 811262.
Flower Rota for November: **1st November** Mrs M Tomlinson; **8th November Remembrance Sunday** Mrs G Churton; **15th and 2nd November** Mrs A Grice-Holt; **29th November** Advent

Villages Together Methodist Church Services for November

Sunday 1st 10.30am Huby Methodist Church Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Alex Middleton-Laing
3.00pm Community Choir at Tholthorpe
Remembrance Sunday 8th 3.00pm Worship with the Alne Hall residents led by Rev Alex Middleton-Laing
Sunday 15th 10.30am Huby Methodist Church Morning Worship led by Mrs Marion Moverley
Sunday 22nd 10.30am Circuit Service at Acomb Methodist Church led by our Chairman of the District, Rev Romeo Pedro
Sunday 29th 10.00am Service of Holy Communion at Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church, led by Rev Alex Middleton-Laing
Advent Sunday (29th) 10.30am Easingwold Methodist Church service led by Naomi Prince

St Mary's, Marton in the Forest

Many thanks to Clive for a hugely entertaining Music Quiz in October. We are definitely going to have another one because it was such a lovely afternoon!
As the clocks have now changed, our evening services have reverted to 3.00pm, to try to avoid night time driving in wintry conditions.
We have three services planned for November: Sunday 1st 3.00pm Celtic Eucharist
Wednesday 11th 10.50am Remembrance Service
Sunday 15th 3.00pm Celtic Evening Worship
Everyone is welcome to all our services, and the church and churchyard are open daily, so do drop in if you are passing through!

St Leonard's, Farlington

Services in November:

Sunday 8th 10.50am Service of Remembrance

Sunday 22nd 10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 29th 10.30am Service Celebrating the start of Advent: The time of Advent is about far more than hanging up the advent calendar and looking forward to the daily treat concealed behind a cardboard door. For Christians all over the world, Advent is an important time of preparation. The word 'Advent' means coming and it is the four-week period leading up to the birth of Jesus. The Advent service in St Leonard's – which this year will be led by the Archdeacon of York - will embrace special hymns and readings celebrating this time of special preparation.

Looking ahead - two dates for your diary:

The ever-popular St Leonard's Grand Christmas Prize Bingo will be taking place on **Friday, December 4th**. Doors open at 7.00pm, eyes down at 7.30pm. Come along for this fun-filled evening with lots of top-quality prizes.

Our Carols by Candlelight Service will be on **Friday, December 18th at 6.30pm**

Private Prayer: The church is open every day for private prayer and quiet time and the peaceful churchyard is open at all times.