

# Stillington News

Issue 351

www.stillingtonvillage.org

April 2024

## Notice from the Stillington News Editors

You may have noticed that we changed the deadline for submissions recently. We realise that this has proved problematic for some groups whose meetings take place later in the month. We have therefore moved the date back to the third Wednesday in the month. We would like to stress however, that due to work and family commitments we no longer have the free time we originally did when we took over as editors back in 2017. We therefore ask that **all** contributors please send copy to us by the deadline date or contact us to notify and request the possibility of a later date.

**It will no longer be possible for us to chase late copy, even from regular contributors and if copy is submitted late we will be unable to include it.**

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

## Stillington Village Hall 2024 AGM

Wednesday 22nd May  
at 7pm  
Everyone welcome



**Pie, Pea and Bingo Night**  
**At Stillington Sports and Social Club**  
**12th April 7pm**  
**£5 for Pie and Peas**  
**£10 for Pie, Peas and Bingo - Over 18's only**

## Primetime

Primetime is a seated, social exercise group for all ages and abilities, with a carer if necessary and held every

**Friday afternoon 1-3pm**  
**in the Village Hall**

A donation of £4 per session is suggested to cover hall hire, but this does not apply to carers or PAs.

You would be very welcome to attend a free introductory session to see if this activity is for you - just turn up, no registration necessary.

## Vandalism in our Village

Vandalism is an illegal and anti-social activity and we are sad to be reporting that there have been several incidents around our village once again. Food has been stolen from the foodbank box, stored inside the church porch doorway: the contents of a pasta sauce jar were spilled down the High Street, (north side) pathway above York Road junction; a glass jar and glass bottle were thrown onto the road; a packet of rice opened and its contents dropped midway up the High Street path (north side); eggs were also stolen from a stall on North Back Lane and thrown around.

In the early hours of the morning footsteps were heard running along the High Street path and someone was knocking on the different front doors. All of these incidents will be reported to the police

## The Tuesday Pop - In



Our friendly welcoming Pop - In continues every week on.....

### Tuesdays

**from 10-30 until 12 noon**

Each Tuesday our team look forward to opening the doors of Stillington Village Hall and welcoming friends and neighbours, to enjoy a warming drink and tasty bites over good chat and a catchup in a friendly warm environment. Why not come and join us? Bring a friend along too. A donation towards costs can be offered but is not expected. Surplus cash raised has previously been distributed to a number of local causes.

We look forward to welcoming you soon!



The team at Dementia Forward is excited to announce two new services for people with dementia in the Ryedale area. **The Brain Health Cafe** is for anyone who would like to explore ways to keep their brains healthy and will run every **Thursday from 10am to 12 noon, at Trinity Church Rooms in Norton from April 11th**. Please come along, or contact Dementia Forward for more information. They are also opening their first **Ryedale day service (known as a Hub Club) in Welburn Village Hall**. There is no start date as yet, but if you would like to find out more or register your interest, please contact the Dementia Forward Helpline on **03300 578592**, where you can also make a referral into their support services. Please note, Dementia Forward provides free, confidential support and advice, but Hub Clubs are a paid service and an assessment is needed before attending.



**We hope you have all had a Happy Easter!**

### **April Speaker and AGM**

The 2024 AGM will be held on Wednesday 24th April, starting at 7.15pm before the talk. The speaker will be Peter Williams talking about 'Plants for Small Gardens'. This should be a very interesting talk. Do bring a friend/guest to the talk, they may wish to join the Club next year.

### **2024 Plant Sale**

This will be held on Monday 6th May. It will follow the very successful format of last year: plants on display outside Muriel Law's house with coffee and delicious scones in her garden. I hope you're having success growing your plants for our sale despite the cold weather. As our last speaker said "keep feeding". This is one of our main funding events during the year, so let us pray for a fine day.

### **April Tips for the Garden:**

- Start to feed citrus plants.
- Increase the water given to houseplants.
- Feed hungry shrubs and roses.
- Sow new lawns or repair bare patches.
- Prune fig trees.
- Divide bamboo and water lilies.
- Keep weeds under control.

**Robert Churton**

### **Stillington Bowling Club**

#### **Open Day - Sunday 14th April**

If you are interested in trying lawn green bowls, then please come down to our free open day on **Sunday 14th 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 the open day, social bowling and coaching will be held every **Wednesday evening from 7pm starting on 17th April**. We are also looking to establish regular social bowling at weekends.

**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**

### **Last Quiz of the season at the Sports and Social Club**

The March quiz raised **£340** for the Friends of Stillington School (FOSS). This was the final quiz of the season & the closest scoring of all. Newton on Ouse team of Janet, Barbara Watson, Fiona Smith and

Peter Gillingham were the winners with a single point over two teams in joint 2nd place & another point for two teams in joint 3rd place.

Thank you to all for attending and helping to fundraise for some of our local organisations.

### **Stillington WI**

On Wednesday 13th March Stillington and Farlington WI welcomed Gelda Churton to talk to us about flowers, how to get the best out of cut flowers and curing some of the commonly occurring problems which most of us have encountered.

Soft stemmed flowers like tulips and gerberas often droop. This can be prevented by inserting and removing a pin through the stem just below the flower head. This releases the air block in the hollow stem allowing the uptake of water.

Containers should be filled approx 2/3 full and any leaves either on the flowers or greenery should be stripped off, this helps keep the water clean. The water should be changed every couple of days.

Gelda then took a bunch of 'supermarket' flowers, trimmed each stem diagonally to give the greatest surface area for water uptake and arranged them with some added greenery, into a beautiful display.

A twiggy branch was anchored in a shallow container using a 'hedgehog' (a weighted spiky gadget more environmentally friendly than 'oasis'), surrounded by greenery and daffodils. Little Easter egg ornaments were hung from the branch to make a lovely Easter decoration.

**Next month we meet on Wednesday 10th April at 7:30pm when we will hear about the Resistance in Montcony in France during WW2.**

All visitors welcome, £4 including refreshments.

**Angela Hawker**

### **Stillington Tennis Club**

The tennis courts are in remarkable form for the new season start in April, having sailed through a very wet winter.

There will be junior tennis coaching courses in both April and June this season. Matches start in May for the two mixed teams in Divs 5 and 8 of the York & District league; the 1st team having gained promotion.

**Match practice starts Sunday evenings 5.30pm from 14th April.**

**Social tennis continues Saturday afternoons from 2pm and Ladies tennis Wednesday afternoons at 2pm.**

For more information contact **Chairman, Ken Stirk 07866 769570, Secretary Jennifer Jones 810805 or Graham Cookman, Treasurer 810047. enquiries@stillingtontennis.org**

## Weather Report March 2024

### Rainfall

During February, rainfall in Stillington amounted to 84.5mm. This was well above the average figure of 46mm, but did not break any records. In 2020 we had 110mm.

So far, up to the twelfth, March has given us a mere 22mm, though overcast and drizzly days have made it seem more.

### Temperature

We are told that nationally February was very mild. In Stillington we did have an unseasonal warm spell in the middle of the month, reaching 14.5°C on the 14th. There were no sharp frosts to cut down the premature spring flowers, though overnight the temperature did fall below zero on a couple of occasions (-0.5°C on the 23rd /24th and -0.1°C the next night.) Solar panel output, of 120kWh, was the lowest February total since 2017.

March, so far, has been a little on the cool side up until yesterday, the 12th, when a mild spell started. Today it has reached 15 °C.

MT

### Bric-a-brac Wanted

I will be collecting bric-a-brac once again this year for a jumble sale to raise money for **Dementia Forward**.

If anyone has any items they would like to donate, please can you text / phone **Tracy Sinclair 07786 877 119** before 13th April

## Stillington Oil Co-operative

Stillington Oil Co-operative is a member of the Lower Swale Oil Syndicate. The LSOS consists of nine volunteer-run co-operatives. Collectively we have nearly 1,000 members living in some thirty settlements local to Easingwold and buy around 1.5 million litres of heating oil annually.

As a price benchmark, we use the daily heating oil prices published by Boilerjuice. Boilerjuice say that they take the lowest price from each postcode district in their network for 1,000 litres\* of heating oil and use this information to plot the average heating oil price for England. Whilst this doesn't necessarily reflect local rates which may, of course, be higher, it does provide a useful indicator as to the savings members are making by being part of the LSOS.

\* Please note that members of the LSOS can order the minimum quantity of 500 litres at the LSOS, whereas most suppliers charge a premium for deliveries of less than 1,000 litres.

The chart below compares the price paid by LSOS members with the Boilerjuice price.



Taking an average across the whole year, members saved 4.73p/litre (6.7%) against the Boilerjuice price. On 06 January 2023, the Syndicate price was 18.7% lower than Boilerjuice, saving 16p/litre.

Membership of the Stillington Oil Co-operative is open to households in and around Stillington and surrounding villages.

**If you want to join, please send an email to: [stillington@swaleoil.org.uk](mailto:stillington@swaleoil.org.uk)**

Data supplied by Tate Fuels, checked by LSOS Coordinators. All prices include VAT @ 5%.

## 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 April, then:

### April – In the bathroom

1. Spend less time in the shower. Spending one minute less in the shower each day will save up to £7 off your energy bills each year, per person. Heating water uses a lot of energy.  
[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins)
2. Turn off the tap while cleaning your teeth. The clean water that flows out of your tap needs energy in many stages of processing and transport before it gets to the tap. Don't waste it!
3. If your toilet cistern holds more than 6 litres of water (likely if it was installed before 2001) put a Hippo Water Saving device (or a brick) in it to save water each time you flush (eg <http://www.hippo-the-watersaver.co.uk/>)





## Stillington Primary School News

We have had a busy month at Stillington Primary! We are pleased to share that we have recently had our Ofsted inspection, which gave us the opportunity to share all the amazing things we do. We are so extremely proud of our children, who were absolute stars, when sharing all their learning clearly and articulately with the inspectors. I would like to thank our children, families, staff across the federation and governors for their contributions. I feel privileged to work in such a wonderful school! The outcome of the inspection is currently confidential until the report is published. We look forward to sharing this with you.

Our half term has also been packed with fun enrichment activities, including a residential, talk from a local MP, a sports enhancement day with trampolines, a poetry workshop, farm visit, celebrating world book day, a dentist workshop and first aid training for the children! Wishing everyone a lovely Easter from all the children and staff at Stillington Schools.



Miss Katie Stringer  
Head of School  
Foston CE & Stillington Primary Schools

## Stillington Parish Council

The Council meeting was on Wednesday 6th March 2024 in the Village Hall with Cllrs Christine Cookman (Chairman), Graham Taylor, Robert Churton, Richard Smyth, Cllr Tracy Sinclair and Cllr Tim Milburn together with 7 members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllr Tim Drew and North Yorkshire Cllr Malcolm Taylor.

### Public Session

Matters discussed: the village green, horse warning signs, a haulage application, parking line markings and faded school warning signs.

### North Yorkshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Taylor has reported that following a recent site meeting with Highways, an officer will be visiting the site outside the Primary School in order to assess what can be done regarding improved access.

### Demolished Barn

NYC Planning Enforcement have confirmed that emergency permission has been given to demolish the barn and a retrospective planning application will be submitted.

### Vandalism

Recent cases of vandalism to the bus shelter, birdsmouth fencing, windows and cars have been reported to the police. A visit had been requested to attend today's meeting but no reply received.

### Track around the Green

It has been established that the track around the village has been repaired in the past by the Parish Council. A contractor will be found to undertake repairs. Ownership of the track is still unknown.

### Street Lighting on York Road.

An estimate of £3,500 has been received from North Yorkshire Council to install an additional light on York Road. It was agreed to wait until the new estate is built to see if a light is still required.

### Next Meeting

**Wednesday 3rd April 2024 in the Village Hall, 7pm.**

**The Clerk to the Parish Council**

**Nigel Knapton at [clerk@stillingtonparishcouncil.uk](mailto:clerk@stillingtonparishcouncil.uk)**

**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\***

## Countryside Notes

Sunday 17th March, another day of sunshine and showers. Last week there were some signs of the weather beginning to dry up, but not for long. Already there is much colour bursting out in the hedgerows: the new green of bursting leaf buds on the Hawthorn is so pleasant a green that it was known as poor mans "Bread and Cheese", don't know why! The Blackthorn's creamy white flowers are bursting forth; nearer the hedge bottom, there is growth showing of Stitchwort, Bluebells, Bog Myrtle, Umbellifers of one sort and another. The Scurvy Grass on the side of the York Road is showing its little white flower close to the road curb. Scurvy Grass is really a marine plant with round fleshy leaves that has moved away from the salt-coast line because of our Highways Departments using salt on roads in winter and I guess that traffic picks up seed and spreads it around.

Today, I have been to an Old Folks' Home visiting residents. How good it is to share the wonder of nature with them and help them bring back memories so golden and rich that have been a big part of their lives. That rich memory bank has been created by looking, seeing and rejoicing in the miracle of Spring. I hope that we all are making a memory bank to draw from in days to come.

Recently, I have noticed the footprints of Roe Deer in the orchard and some droppings very close to the house. So, I think we must have some nocturnal visitors, occasionally the dogs bark in the night, no doubt not enjoying the visitors who I reckon will be after new shoots and buds in the orchard and perhaps in the garden. However, it would be nice if a Doe had a Fawn or two for us to see and enjoy. We will look out and report later.

We have a lot of hungry birds about, devouring peanuts and fat balls in large quantities. They are in splendid apparel with their new plumage full of colour and shine. No doubt in their best for the Romantic Season is upon them. There are Blue, Great, Coal and Long-tailed Tits along with Hedge Sparrows, House Sparrows, Chaffinches and brilliant Yellowhammers enjoying seed, whilst Blackbirds, Robins and Wrens are hunting around the garden. They have started to sing on a morning, which is good to hear. There was a lot of cheeping in the trees at the surgery last week from a flock of Linnets or Redpolls or both, however the light was wrong for a true identification but they were certainly busy hunting seed.

The Ewes were scanned last week with a scan of 159% lambs, comprising 4 triplets, 44 twins, 21 singles and 7 barren ewes. Scanning helps me to know which ewes need extra care, the triplets want a more careful looking to and are not really what we want as that extra lamb has not got a teat and will fight for survival with its siblings, which makes for a hard life for them and for mother. Lamb numbers are controlled by the ewe in autumn and by the nutrition their feed is comprised of that triggers a biological calculation as to how many lambs she will be able to raise. The wet, cold conditions were not so good at the critical time of this year.

There is much happening around at this time for us to enjoy, so keep eyes and ears open to see the miracle of change as new life emerges.

**R & M**

## A Message of Easter Hope

As the vibrant colours of spring begin to bloom and the promise of new life fills the air, we are reminded of the profound significance of the Easter season. It is a time of rejoicing, renewal, and reflection on the ultimate sacrifice made by Jesus Christ for all humanity. Easter is not merely a historical event to be commemorated; it is a living reality that continues to shape our lives and our faith. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are offered the gift of salvation and the hope of eternal life.

In a world marked by uncertainty and turmoil, the message of Easter shines brightly as a beacon of hope. It reminds us that even in the midst of darkness, there is light; even in times of despair, there is hope; and even in the face of death, there is the promise of new life. The Easter story is one of triumph over adversity, of love conquering hate, and of grace overcoming sin. It is a story that speaks to the deepest longings of the human heart – the longing for redemption, forgiveness, and reconciliation with God.

As we complete our journey through the season of Lent and approach the celebration of Easter, let us take time to reflect on the significance of this holy season. Let us examine our hearts and our lives, seeking to align them more closely with the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Easter is a time for spiritual renewal and growth. It is an opportunity for us to deepen our relationship with God and to recommit ourselves to lives of faith, love, and service to others. Let us also remember those who are suffering or in need during this time. Easter calls us to extend a hand of compassion and generosity to those who are less fortunate, embodying the love and grace of Christ in our actions.

For anyone reading this who does not know the Lord or uses the term 'I have no faith' may I say that in a secular context, Easter and the hope of resurrection signify the triumph of hope over despair, renewal over stagnation. It offers a universal narrative of rebirth, emphasizing the potential for personal growth and collective renewal amidst life's challenges. And, I believe, this is a hope we all need in the world in which we now live.

As we gather with family, friends, and neighbours to celebrate Easter, let us do so with hearts full of gratitude and praise. Let us give thanks for the gift of salvation and the hope of new life that we have been given through Jesus Christ.

May this Easter be a time of joy, peace, and renewal for you and your loved ones. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your hearts and illuminate your lives now and always.

With warmest wishes for a blessed Easter,

**Rev Steve**

## CHURCH SERVICES -April

### 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 7th** Morning Worship 10am  
**Sun 14th** No service at Stillington  
There will be services at:  
Farlington 10.30am  
Sutton 10am  
Sheriff Hutton 10.30am  
**Sun 21st** Holy Communion 10am  
**Sun 28th** Morning Praise 10am

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

**Prayers for the village** Every Thursday, 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're unable to attend Church on a Sunday morning and would like a visit at home, please call Margaret Price to arrange a convenient time.

### St Nicholas Church Rota

8th April - 20th April

**CLEANING** Mrs M Hetherington

**BRASSES** Mr A Hetherington

22nd April - 4th May

**CLEANING** Mrs M Tomlinson

**BRASSES** Mr H Tomlinson

### 200 Club Results

1st Mrs Chapman - £50

RU Mrs M Price,

RU Mr J Hawker,

Drawn by "Our Ernie"

### St Nicholas Flower Rota

7th April- Mrs R Bresnan

14th April - Mrs R Bresnan

21st April - Mrs M Price

28th April - Mrs M Price

### St Leonard's, Farlington

#### Priest:

Revd Stephen Whiting 810251  
benefice.admin@gmail.com

#### Church Wardens:

Sally Wright 878745  
Richard Haste 878581  
richardhaste@btinternet.com

The churchyard is bursting into life and looking wonderful. Why not come and sit on one of our two outdoor seats to enjoy some 'quiet time' in this area of peace and tranquillity.

The Church is open daily for private prayer; the Churchyard is open at all times

**Sun 14th** Shortened Matins (BCP) 10.30am

**Weds 24th** Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am

St Leonard's follows the tradition of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and you are assured of a warm welcome at any of our services.

### The Annual Parishioners'

#### Meeting

**Wednesday 24th April, 2pm  
in church**

This meeting is open to residents of Farlington Parish and those who regularly attend services at St. Leonard's Church and is an opportunity to come and hear how the church is being run and perhaps have a say in its future.

### Methodist Chapel

#### Minister:

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

#### Steward:

Robin Jackson 810250  
robinjacksonwoodside@gmail.com

### Villages Together Methodist Church

**Sun 7th** Led by the congregation  
Huby 10-30am

**Sun 14th** Led by Tricia Mitchell  
Alne Hall 3pm

**Sun 21st** Cafe Service, Rev David  
Bidnell

Huby 10-30am

**Sun 28th** Cafe service, Rev John  
Schofield  
Tholthorpe 3pm

### St Mary's Marton

#### Church Contact:

Caroline Hunt 878242  
martonintheforest@gmail.com  
Sue Whiting 810251

Happy Easter! After a wonderful flurry of snowdrops, aconites and daffodils, we look forward to more and more signs of spring in our churchyard. One sunny lunchtime in March my Merlin phone app identified 13 different birds by their song and I am so looking forward to stopping and listening to the dawn chorus at our Easter Sunday sunrise vigil. We have been increasingly aware of birdsong during our services too and look forward to warmer days when we can sit outside or have our services with the doors open.

**Please note that our services have now moved to 6pm for British Summer Time.**

**Sun 7th** Communion 6pm  
**Sun 21st** Reflective Service 6pm

Our Celtic communion service on Sunday 7th April will be preceded by our APCM (the church version of an AGM) at 5pm with tea and cake. Everyone is very welcome to both, or either!

We continue to look forward to our History Day on **Saturday 17th August** so please do root out any stories, photos or other memorabilia. I am currently very interested in the lives and times of the Moxby nuns - if anyone has any insights or information please do contact me (Caroline Hunt) via **martonontheforest@gmail.com**

We are also looking forward to 'Raising the Roof': a musical evening with supper in Stillington Village Hall on Saturday 22nd June as a fundraiser for necessary repairs and maintenance of Marton Church. More details to follow in due course!

