Merry Christmas!

AMENITIES UPDATE FUND-RAISING PROGRESS
OPEN ALL HOURS HOLIDAY OPENING ARRANGEMENTS
DECEMBER EVENTS SEASONAL MUSICAL CELEBRATIONS

God rest ye merry, Stilton folk! Have a great holiday season. Seasonal events and opening times inside.
Grey Bin Days:
Monday 9th, 23rd December,
Tuesday 7th January

Garden Bin and Recycling Days:
Monday 2nd, 16th, 31st December, 13th January

For latest information on refuse collections, go to www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Now Recycling Bottles
Christmas Greetings
FROM REV. JAMIE & LINDA MACKAY

Traditionally Christmas is a time for giving and receiving presents; as we write this we imagine there are a number of children writing out their Christmas lists. When our children were of school age they would ask 'What do you want for Christmas dad?'

I'd reply; 'You know me well enough to buy me a surprise.' When my father was alive we had similar discussions, but jokingly he'd reply; 'You might get a surprise, you might get nothing!' But there is something special about receiving a surprise gift.

Before Jesus was born many people were waiting for a saviour; someone who would lead a military charge and overcome the Roman occupation. These people had their wish list but were disappointed when God's gift to the world was a baby; Jesus. He came as a man of peace and they rejected Him. However, those people who did receive and accepted God's gift of Jesus were surprised and blessed. Many were healed and had their lives changed. God knows our needs so he sent his only Son to us, who lived, died and rose again (at Easter) so that we can all receive the gift of eternal life.

God has also given other gifts, like prayer. Why not offer a prayer for the recipient of gifts that you wrap up this year? Like this: '(Name) May the presence of Jesus Christ bring you his joy and blessing this Christmas'

As a Christian community we welcome you to our church services listed below. For other services in our group of parishes please see the November/December monthly Links.

May we wish you a blessed and happy Christmas, with our best wishes for a peaceful New Year.

Rev. Jamie & Linda Mackay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1st 8.00am</td>
<td>Service of Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4th 12:30pm</td>
<td>Service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) &amp; Soup Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>Cubs &amp; Brownies Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 8th 11:00am</td>
<td>LinCup Christingle Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 15th 11:00am</td>
<td>Service of Holy Communion (Common Worship)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18th 7:30am</td>
<td>Service of Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>'Ladies' Service of Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20th 7:00pm</td>
<td>The Bell Inn with Stilton Church - Carols in the Courtyard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 22nd 6:00pm</td>
<td>All Age Family Carol Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 24th 11:30pm</td>
<td>Midnight Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 25th 10:30am</td>
<td>Christmas Day Service at St Helen's Church Folksworth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WANTED: SCHOOL GOVERNORS!

STILTON SCHOOL HAS A VACANCY FOR A COMMUNITY GOVERNOR. COULD IT BE YOU?

THE GOVERNING BODY PLAYS SEVERAL IMPORTANT ROLES IN THE WORK OF A SCHOOL. GOVERNORS SHOULD:

● HELP TO CREATE THE VISION, ETHOS AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE SCHOOL
● ENSURE THAT HIGH EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED
● ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL’S FINANCES ARE USED PROPERLY AND EFFECTIVELY

GOVERNORS ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS DRAWN FROM FOUR GROUPS OF PEOPLE:

● PARENTS AND CARERS
● STAFF AT THE SCHOOL
● THE CHURCH
● THE WIDER COMMUNITY

OUR GOVERNORS MEET SIX TIMES A YEAR. THEY ALSO SERVE ON EITHER THE RESOURCES OR THE LEARNING COMMITTEE, EACH OF WHICH MEETS ONCE A TERM, AND THEY TAKE PART IN TASK GROUPS AND MONITORING VISITS AS AND WHEN THESE ARE REQUIRED.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY, OR SIMPLY WISH TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT IS INVOLVED, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS, MRS CRANE - 01733 240480 OR OFFICE@STILTON.CAMBS.SCH.UK

YOU DON’T NEED TO BE AN EDUCATION EXPERT; YOU DO NEED TO BE COMMITTED AND INTERESTED IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE. WHAT BETTER WAY TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY THAN BY SERVING ON THE GOVERNING BODY OF OUR BRILLIANT SCHOOL?
St Mary Magdalene, Stilton
Activities For Parents and Children
Drop in and try these:

Tuesday 9am: Children’s Fun Dance
Wednesday 9am: Drop in for a drink and chat
1st Wednesday: Children’s Songs
Friday 9am: Linking Hands
2nd Sunday 11am: LinCup Café worship
4th Sunday 6pm: All-age Family Worship

Growing together in Worship - Reaching out with Christian Love

More Choice in Social Care

Social care is provided to people who have been assessed as having substantial or critical support needs with personal care, getting meals, managing medication and staying safe.

If you need social care the County Council will arrange your care for you, but they now have a duty to offer and provide Direct Payments. Direct Payments are an alternative way of getting the care and support you need. They are cash payments made directly into a Direct Payment bank account so that you can use the money to make your own social care arrangements.

With a Direct Payment you have more choice, control and independence about how your care is organised.

If you would like to find out more about Direct Payments visit the Your Life, Your Choice website, pick up a leaflet from your library, phone adult social care enquiries on 0345 045 5202, or contact the Cambridgeshire Direct Payment Support Service on 0845 6000 684.

www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk

Yaxley Flower Club

16th Jan Richard Bull Dobbies Horticulture 20th Feb Sue Sewell My Favourite Things

20th March AGM

Contact: Helen Burton (01733) 242198 or Lesley Young (01733) 240265

Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month (excl. Aug & Dec) at the Yaxley British Legion, Broadway, Yaxley.
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service offers timely advice to make sure your festive cheer doesn't go up in smoke:

- Kitchens are a fire hotspot, so take care while cooking your Christmas dinner. Never leave cooking unattended and turn off appliances when not in use.
- Switch off fairy lights and unplug them before you go to bed or leave the house. Make sure they conform to the British Standard and never overload plug sockets.
- Be careful when drinking alcohol while smoking or cooking.
- Finally, make sure you have a working smoke alarm. Test it now! And NEVER take its batteries out to power presents!

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94.

Police remind residents to take security precautions during the holiday season.

Burglaries are mostly opportunist offences that increase during the long nights and the Christmas season. You can reduce temptation by keeping possessions - especially Christmas presents - out of sight and making your home look occupied.

Police offer the following advice:

- Invest in a security light and alarm. Burglar alarms are the number one deterrent.
- Use a timer switch for lights when you are out, so your home looks occupied.
- Make sure you lock your front and back doors and secure all windows, including upstairs, before leaving.
- Beware of bogus callers. Most utility companies do not cold call. Ask to see photo ID and call the company for confirmation. Genuine callers do not mind calling back another time or for you to make an arranged appointment with the company.

For more information about security contact your local community safety team on 101 or visit www.cambs.police.uk/

You can now place your orders through the new Stilton village website!

www.stilton.org
RAISING THE WIND

The work on the Amenities Project has continued apace. A considerable milestone was to receive the Sport England grant of £50,000 for the upgrade of the sports playing area surface to the field. Work on the field will begin in the spring of 2014.

The Football Foundation Grant Application was submitted in August. It is a huge document and contains considerable detail. The Football Foundation are considering the application and requesting clarification and further detail from the Amenities Group. We should hear the outcome in the New Year. This application is for £125,000.

The group is currently preparing a £50,000 grant application for Sport England Inspired Facilities. Once again the application requires considerable detail and is highly competitive, so the application must stand high above others!

We have applied for QEII Fields in Trust recognition.

VILLAGE SUPPORT

There is great support from the village! Donations from village organisations, personal donations, fund-raising events and pledges, already amount to £30,000. At this stage of the project this is amazing and much appreciated. It will make an enormous difference to the attitude of the funders we approach if we can set the village's fundraising target at £50,000. This will clearly demonstrate how committed the community is to this project and help them support us.

GROUP THERAPY

On Saturday 23 November, the Project Steering Group held an open meeting at the Bell Inn for representatives of village groups and organisations. 13 groups were represented and gave great support. Each group intends to provide a letter of support for the project and continue to raise funds where possible. Groups unable to attend have all been contacted personally. The school continues to give support and is engaged in designing the layout of the children's play area. Letters of support are essential when making grant applications.

The Parish Council has received the £300,000 Public Works Loan which will cover at least 43% of the project costs.

Tenders have been received for the building construction and the plans, together with specifications, are being examined in order to ensure best value.

The fund-raising Dinner Dance has been deferred until the spring; hopefully a better date for all those who intend to support and enjoy the occasion. Watch this space. ‘Mike's Do’ Dinner Dance on Friday 22 November raised £500 towards the project. Well done and thank you.

PITCH IN AND HELP!

The amount of work still to be done should not be underestimated. What will be achieved will be of huge benefit to the village and its future generations. This is the biggest project to affect the village for a generation. It is not too late to become involved.

Please contact: Mark Angus. Tel: 244006.
Stilton & District Twinning Association

Group Visit to St Christol

27 - 31 May 2014

The St Christol Twinning Association has kindly invited a group of up to 25 from Stilton and District to visit St Christol. The group will be a mix of adults and young people.

Whilst there we will enjoy a great programme. The main feature will be to experience the Alès Fèria, an annual fête and festival unique to this area of France. You will be wonderfully hosted including, of course, excellent wine and food.

If you are interested contact, asap, Chris and Linda on 241376 or email: clstilton@btinternet.com

St Christol les Alès is in the department of Gard on the edge of the beautiful hills of the Cevennes. It is situated 30 km NE of the Roman town of Nîmes and 4km from Alès, the capital of the Cevennes region.

Twinning Diary Dates

1 March 2014  Quiz Night
April 2014  Race Night - to be confirmed
6 May 2014  Cheese Rolling - sponsoring the Junior Championships
27-31 May 2014  Week’s visit to St Christol - see ad in this issue
20-22 June 2014  Weekend visit to Amiens - see ad in this issue

If you are interested in any of these events or in becoming involved in the Association please contact Chris Walford on 241376.

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
**Church Street, Stilton**

Our pre-school offers fun-play and learning for under 5's, with close links to Stilton Primary School.

We welcome children from 2 years 6 months to our afternoon sessions.

**12:30pm to 3:30pm**

Monday to Thursday

From September (in the year before they start School) our children move to morning sessions where we slowly introduce more structure in preparation for school life. In the Summer Term our Rising 5's programme includes weekly visits to Stilton Primary School.

**8:45am to 11:45am**

Monday to Friday

Nursery vouchers welcome

For further information, call Leslie Kirk
Tel: (01733) 247682
stiltonplaygroup@live.co.uk

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**St Mary Magdalene, Stilton**

**Wednesday Worship at Lunchtime**

Holy Communion followed by a soup & bread lunch

Every 1st Wednesday in the month

**4th Dec**

12:30 - 1:30pm

Church Meeting Room

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**Be a Little Rotter!**

**HOME COMPOSTING EQUIPMENT**

If you didn't succumb to the temptation of a second garden refuse bin you might like to know that the County Council recycling authority recommends compost bins from www.getcomposting.com

Their bins start at £16.95 for a basic compost bin, but there are many others to choose from, including slatted wooden bins. You can get also water butts, wormeries and a variety of kitchen composters and caddies.
As the winter chill sets in, we are enjoying the usual festivities that come with it. We remembered Guy Fawkes' Night and created bright, glittery bonfire pictures and colourful rockets. As Remembrance Day approached, we made poppy badges and learned about soldiers. We are now getting ready to start decorating the Playgroup for Christmas as well as creating a Festivals display board to help us learn about different cultures. Parents/carers should expect lots of paint and glitter to make their way home!

We are lucky enough to have a Sports Coach, called Lee, visit the older children every Tuesday. Lee takes the children to the school hall and encourages them to climb, jump, throw, catch, kick and lots more. The children love this opportunity to experiment with their bodies and to visit the main school building. The younger children have fully settled into Playgroup life now and have formed friendships. They continue to enjoy all the play opportunities offered to them at Playgroup.

We now have a brand-new Committee, elected in October and consisting of a few existing members and many new faces. This team of 12 is strongly committed to furthering the success of Stilton Playgroup, to supporting the staff team and to raising much-needed funds for the setting. We are already getting stuck in to the first challenges of the year and are looking forward to building on the firm foundations built by previous committees.

We are looking forward to our most famous event of the year - the Santa Float. Stilton dwellers: look out for Santa's sleigh (accompanied by music and lights) on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December between 4pm and 8pm. Santa aims to wave at every child in the village and his trusty helpers will be collecting any loose change you can spare to help raise funds for our Playgroup, which is a voluntary-run registered charity. We use all money that is raised for the further improvement of our setting; namely resources and learning experiences for the children.

Also on the 7th December is our Christmas fete. This is a lovely festive event for young children and families, held in the Memorial Hall from 10 am to 12 noon. Please bring along your little ones for festive treats, crafts and to see Santa himself in our very own grotto!

Lastly, as we all look forward to the upcoming festivities, the decorations and the family fun, we recognise how fortunate we are to be in such a wonderful village. We are grateful to the villagers for all the support you show us year after year. We wish everyone in Stilton and the surrounding areas a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

St Benedict's Catholic Community Sawtry

Sunday Mass 9:15am weekly
Women's Institute Hall, Gidding Road, Sawtry

We are served by the Roman Catholic Parish of St Luke's 26 Benyon Grove, Orton Malborne, Peterborough PE2 5XS

Parish Priest - Fr John Minh
Tel: (01733) 370877
Email: saintlukesparish@yahoo.co.uk
Web: www.saintlukesparish.org.uk
At our annual Remembrance Day service, representatives of Stilton School placed poppies on each war grave in the cemetery:

- Pilot Officer JM Fisher
- Private DJ Cullip
- LS Leonard Jinks

Stilton Gardening Club
Tuesday, December 17 at 7:30pm
Stilton Church Meeting Room

Christmas Party!
Members and friends welcome
Bring a plate of party food
Christmas Greetings
Charlie Glithro
Would like to wish everyone
a Happy Christmas
and a Healthy New Year

Stilton Stumblers
Winter Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th Dec</td>
<td>Wadenhoe</td>
<td>22nd Dec</td>
<td>Christmas walk from Stilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Jan</td>
<td>Marholm</td>
<td>19th Jan</td>
<td>Catworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Feb</td>
<td>Offord Cluny</td>
<td>16th Feb</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our regular walks are between 5 - 8 miles and meet at 10:00am at The Pump
For more information about Stumbling, visit http://stumblers.stilton.org
or call Shirley on (01733) 246209 - or just turn up on the day with your boots on!

Contacting our Local Police
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU...

Yaxley Office: 1 Queen Street Yaxley PE7 3JE
Call 101 and ask for the Yaxley office

Stilton and Villages:
PC Paul Sykes: 07889 499 066
PCSO Barry Chamberlain: 07921 094 828
email:- huntscops@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Cambridgeshire Future Transport (CFT) is a programme that is working with communities to design local transport solutions.

Transport solutions will be applied in all areas across Cambridgeshire that receive bus subsidies from the Council. The solutions could include reviewing the bus routes & times, community bus schemes, car sharing schemes and so on.

CFT will soon be coming to our area to hear from you, because a subsidised bus service runs through or near our parish.

**WHAT CAN YOU TELL CFT?**

- how you travel; e.g. by public bus, dial-a-ride, etc
- what kind of transport solutions we can develop together that best suit the local community needs

**HOW CAN YOU TELL CFT?**

Please keep an eye out for when CFT will be in our area during Dec / Jan. Look for posters and flyers in key community locations, parish websites, the CFT website, cambridgeshire.net and shapeyourplace.org.

**THE CFT TEAM**

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/cft

cft@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Tel: 0345 045 0675

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**Stilton Memorial Hall**

**Charges**

- Hourly charge  £6 / hour (minimum 2 hours)
- Child’s party  £35
- Adult party  £60
- Commercial  £12 / hour

To book the Hall, please contact the Booking Secretary:

Jade Smith  15 Woodward Close  (01733) 243691

If leaving a message, please provide a LANDLINE PHONE NUMBER and you will be contacted promptly. (It’s very expensive having to reply to lots of mobiles!)
Buying a Secondhand Car?

ADVICE FROM TRADING STANDARDS

At Trading Standards, the most frequent type of consumer complaint we receive relates to the purchase of secondhand cars. They are one of the most expensive purchases we make and many of us are dependent on them for going about our daily lives. As a result it can be a daunting process to buy a secondhand car. Here is some advice to help you.

CHECK BEFORE YOU BUY

- Check the validity of the MOT on VOSA's website (www.gov.uk/check-mot-status) and check the car's details are correct on the MOT certificate. If it states there were advisory points, make sure you see the details so that you know what work is likely to be needed before the next MOT.
- Check the VOSA website to check the vehicle has not been recalled.
- Check its service history. How often has it been serviced, and has it been serviced in line with the manufacturer's recommendations?
- Carry out an HPI (www.hpi.co.uk) check to make sure there is no outstanding finance on the car that could lead to it being repossessed by the finance company. An HPI check will also tell you if the car has been written off or if it is stolen.
- In terms of physically checking the car, carry out a walk around check and test drive the car. If you are not mechanically minded we also strongly recommend you have the car checked by an engineer.

YOUR RIGHTS

If you buy from a private seller, your rights are limited if you find a fault with the car after buying it. The seller must have the right to sell the car and the car must be 'as described', but other than that you have no recourse if things go wrong with it.

By comparison, if you purchase the car from a trader, again they must have title to the car and it must be 'as described' but in addition it must be of satisfactory quality, taking into account its age, mileage, condition etc. For instance, it would be reasonable to expect a brand new car to be free from wear and tear issues when you buy it. However, if you were to buy a ten year old car with a mileage of over 100,000 then naturally there will be wear and tear on the vehicle. If faults arise due to wear and tear, it is unlikely you will have any recourse against the trader. Where a fault occurs which is not due to wear and tear, you may be able to seek a repair by the trader in the first instance.

The rights explained above are in addition to any rights you may have under a warranty. You can find more advice and information about your rights when buying a secondhand car on the Citizens Advice website: www.adviceguide.org.uk/consumer. Or you can contact Trading Standard's advice partner, the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline, on 0845 404 0506.
Can You Change Lives?
CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL NEEDS YOU

Cambridgeshire County Council needs you to help change the lives of local children and young people.

Foster Carers provide a stable family support network for local children and young people when they are unable to live with their own family. Every year over 425 children and young people are looked after by Cambridgeshire County Council.

But the shortage of Foster Carers means that children and young people are placed with independent foster carers or residential units (some outside of Cambridgeshire) and they may also be looked after within the county children's homes. We need to recruit more Foster Carers in order to give them the best possible future.

Foster Carers come from all different kinds of backgrounds. It may be that you have your own children or you may have worked with children before. You may have no experience of children or are possibly considering a career change.

Every child is different so we need different Foster Carers. If you can offer stability, security and the positive experience of a loving family then we want to hear from you.

You might be:
- Married, in a civil partnership, single or living with a partner
- From an ethnic background
- In a same-sex relationship
- In work, unemployed or retired

Recruiting local people will mean that children and young people can live in their own community, continue to attend the same school and maintain contact with their family and friends.

We offer generous allowances, including a start up package, 24hr support and full training.

Call our freephone number on 0800 052 0078 or email fanda@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Feed the Birds This Xmas!

Don't forget our garden birds in all the hurry of the holidays. Their supply of natural food disappears quickly during a cold spell just as migrant birds arrive, swelling numbers.

Ground-feeding birds - including robins - suffer greatly if the ground freezes or is covered by snow. Put out high-energy food; suet products, dried mealworms, peanuts (NOT salted!) and sultanas are good. You can get supplies at most shops that sell food; from pet shops and also from Vine Farm (vinefarm.co.uk)

Drinking sources can freeze and stagnant water can harbour disease, so put out fresh water frequently. You should also regularly clean bird feeders.
Do you fancy a game of Scrabble? Come and join in for a game or two on a Monday afternoon from 3pm.

**RHYMETIME AND STORYTIME**
Rhymetime aimed at Children aged 0-18 months continues every Friday morning from 10.30am-11am during term time.

Storytime, aimed at children from 18 months to 5 years continues on Tuesdays 3rd and 17th December from 10.30am-11am.

**JUNIOR READING GROUP**
The junior reading group will meet in the library on Tuesday 3rd December from 4pm.

If you love books come along and join us for an afternoon of fun book related activities.

**CHRISTMAS BOOKS**
Come along and browse our extensive selection of Christmas books to get you in the festive mood!

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**CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23rd Dec</td>
<td>3pm-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th Dec</td>
<td>9.30am-1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th Dec</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 2nd Jan</td>
<td>normal opening hours resume</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KNITTING GROUP**
The popular knitting group will be meeting in the library on alternate Thursday afternoons and new members are always welcome.

**HIGHWAYS INFORMATION**
Drop in session - Local Highways Officer Les Middleton will be in Yaxley Library on alternate Thursday mornings from 10am to 1pm starting from 14th November 2013.

He will be available to discuss any issues or concerns relating to public highways that you may have.

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**Merry Christmas from SCAN!**

Once again we wish all our readers and advertisers a happy Christmas holiday and a healthy and prosperous New Year.
St Mary Magdalene, Stilton

For full details of our current services, see the Church Link

Delivered to your door every month!
Rector: Rev. Jamie Mackay
(01733) 243253

Yaxley Library
OPENING TIMES

Mon 3:00 - 7:00
Tue 9:30 - 5:00
Wed CLOSED
Thu 9:30 - 5:00
Fri 9:30 - 1:30
Sat 9:30 - 1:30

Renewals & enquiries:
(0345) 045 5225
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

Stilton Over 60s
Several members greatly enjoyed the minibus outings to Morrisons at Stamford and Waterside Gardens at Baston. The Club hopes to have more outings next year, possibly to Boundary Mill at Grantham (see www.boundarymill.co.uk/store/grantham/).

Why not make a New Year Resolution to join this lively social group?

For more details contact Sylvia Ward on 242457 or Doreen Clark on 242643.

Improve Your Piano Skills and Enjoy Your Playing!
Beginners welcome!
Margaret Parsons  Tel: (01733) 243352  pianable@aol.com

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
### BUS SERVICES

For services 46, 46A and Busway B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 Dec</td>
<td>Monday service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Dec</td>
<td>Tuesday service stopping at 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 &amp; 26 December - no service</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Dec</td>
<td>Saturday service (46A:Friday svc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Dec</td>
<td>Saturday service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Dec</td>
<td>Sunday service (46A: No service)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Dec</td>
<td>Saturday service (46A:Monday svc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Dec</td>
<td>Saturday service stopping at 20:00 (46A: Tuesday service)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**1 January - no service**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Jan</td>
<td>Thursday service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Jan</td>
<td>Friday service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RAIL SERVICES

A revised timetable operates between December 23 and January 2. On December 24 and 31 services will stop from about 8pm.

**NO trains on Christmas Day or Boxing Day.**

Because of work on Peterborough Station there will be no rail access on December 27.

Information: 08457 484950 or www.eastcoast.co.uk

### POST OFFICES

Close 1pm 24th Dec; reopen 28th Dec
Close January 1

Last recommended posting dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand and Asia</td>
<td>4 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>5 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Europe, Cyprus</td>
<td>9 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>10 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>13 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>14 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inland 2nd class</td>
<td>18 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inland 1st class</td>
<td>20 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guaranteed special delivery</td>
<td>23 December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LOCAL BUSINESSES

**The Stilton Cheese Inn:**

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year’s Eve (evening) and New Year’s Day.

**The Bell Inn:**

Christmas Eve - Bars open to 11pm, food served until 9pm
Christmas Day - Bar 12:00 to 2pm
Boxing Day - Closed at night; bars open 11am to 5pm; food 12 to 4pm
31 December - food at lunch time; bars 12 to 3pm and 7pm to 1am
1 January - food lunch time; bars 12 to 6pm
To book: (01733) 241066

**Stilton Country Club:**

24th Dec Midday - 00.30am - Disco
25th Dec Midday - 2pm
26th Dec 11am - Midnight
31st Dec 1pm - 1.00am Disco

See also ad in this issue.

**Queensgate:**

21 December - open until 8pm
Christmas Eve - closes at 5pm
Boxing Day - open 10am to 5:30pm

Individual shops will have their own opening hours and may be closed while the centre is open.

### LIBRARIES

All libraries close at 1pm on 24th Dec and reopen on Thursday 2nd January.

The mobile library calls on Thursday 19th December.

**LOCAL BUSINESSES**
HELPING EACH OTHER
NEWS FROM CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOCIAL CARE

DID WE GET IT RIGHT?
The Cambridgeshire Health and wellbeing board has been reviewing local services that help you get and use medicines or medical equipment safely. Our views about these services are written up in the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

We want to know if you agree with what we have written.

We are asking for your feedback between 4th Dec 2013 - 14th Feb 2014. You can give us your thoughts by completing a questionnaire, either at your local pharmacy, dispensing doctor surgery, or online between those dates at:
www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/JSNA/PNA

HOMECARE WORKERS REQUIRED
More older and vulnerable people are requiring home care to ensure they feel safe, happy and independent. To achieve this, the County Council is recruiting compassionate and caring people to start a career in care through a unique apprenticeship programme that enables them to ‘earn while they learn’ by supporting them to get a job with a local homecare provider whilst being paid the standard rate of a care worker.

If you want to make a positive difference to people's lives and would be interested in a career in care, contact Emma Laskey-MacRae, Apprenticeship Project Coordinator on 07917 615360, or by email to Emma.Laskey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk for more information about this unique apprenticeship programme. Your age and background don't matter; if you are looking for a career in care in your community there's a job you can do to help others.

STAY INDEPENDENT, SAFE AND WELL THIS WINTER
If you, or someone you care for, needs advice about keeping independent, safe and well this winter, the County Council runs two helpful adult social care websites:

Your Life, Your Choice, at www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk and the AskSARA online advice and equipment guide www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asksara

Both provide information about keeping warm, preventing falls, and the help that may be available to older and vulnerable people if they are unable to get out and about. If you are unable to access the internet, staff and volunteers in the library can help you to find the information you need, or you can contact adult social care customer services on 0345 045 5202.

The success of the AskSARA website has led to it being expanded to also cover the needs of disabled children. Find the link at the top of the AskSARA website.
Stilton’s Annual
Carols in the Courtyard
at the Bell Inn
7pm Friday 20 December

Mulled wine and
mince pies afterwards!

Parish Meeting Room

The Parish Room will be open from 10am to 11am immediately following Parish Council meetings, which are on the Wednesday following the second Tuesday in the month. If you want to speak with the Clerk at any other time, please make an appointment. Planning applications can be viewed by appointment; telephone (01733) 229130.

HIRING THE ROOM

The Meeting Room is available for hire between 9am and 10:30pm Monday to Saturday; Sunday hours by arrangement. A booking form and conditions of hire are available from the Clerk to Stilton Parish Council.

The Room seats up to 20 people, ideal for small clubs or committee meetings. It has broadband, a kitchen area and toilet suitable for use by disabled people. Users should note that smoking is not permitted in any part of the building or in the surrounding cemetery.

FEES:

All Day (9am - 6pm) £50  Evening (6:30 - 10:30pm) £25
Half Day (9am - 1pm or 2 - 6pm) £25  A deposit of £50 is required when booking.
4 GIRLS 4 HARPS

by Candlelight
Harriet Adie, Eleanor Turner, Elizabeth Scorah and Keziah Thomas
With special guest, flautist Kate Risdon

7:30pm Thursday 12th December
Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Stilton

Tickets: £15 (concessions £12, under-16s £6)
Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the interval.
Tickets from Peter Mitchell on (01733) 244666

www.4girls4harps.com
## The Stilton Diary

**What to do, where to do it & who to do it with!**

### MTWTFS S  WHAT  WHEN

**TINIES**

- Toddler's Dance  9am
  - Playgroup  9 - 11:45 & 1 - 3pm

**YOUNGSTERS**

- Cubs  6 - 7:30pm
- Beavers  6 - 7:15pm
- 1st Stilton Brownies  6:15 - 8pm
- Stilton Rainbows  5:15 - 6:15pm
- Folksworth Brownies  6:30 - 7:45pm
- 1st Folksworth Rainbows  5:30 - 6:30pm
- Guides  6 - 7:30pm
- Junction  7:00 - 9:00pm
- Stilton United Colts  KO 10am

**ADULTS**

- Parish Council  2nd week 7:30pm
- Sewing Group  2:30 - 5pm
- Over 60's Club  2:00pm

**CHURCH**

- Holy Communion  1st Sun 8:00am
- LinCup (Café style worship)  2nd Sun 11am
- Holy Communion (Family)  3rd Sun 11:00am
- Family Service  4th Sun 6:00pm
- Linking Hands (mums)  9am
- Crossover (Y6)  6 - 7pm in term time
- Year 7 Drop-in  7 - 8pm in term time
- Take a Break (children & carers)  9am in term time
- Men's Prayer Breakfast  8am 2nd Saturday in
- Holy Communion (soup lunch)  1st Wednesday 12:30-1:30
- Holy Communion  1st Wednesday 7:30am
- Prayer Focus  3rd Wednesday 8am

**LEISURE**

- Stilton Gardening Club  3rd Tues  7:30pm
- Iris School of Dance  8-10pm
- Zumba  8-10pm
- Stilton Indoor Bowls  2pm Mon, 7pm Thu, 7:30pm
- Band  8 - 9:35pm
- Judo  6 - 8pm
- Yoga  6 - 7pm
- Stilton United FC  3:00pm kick-off
- Stumblers (walking group)  Alternate Sundays 10am

**OTHER**

- Mobile Library  3:10 - 4pm (4th Wed in
- Age Well Club  10 - 11:45am
- Carers' Group  1st Weds, 2 - 4 pm
- Sawtry Lunch Club  10:30am - 1:30pm

**MTWTFS S**

**Are we up to date?**

- Call [SCAN](tel:07906114942) about your activities!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHERE</th>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>CALL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Michelle Pratt</td>
<td>07906 114942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Leslie Kirk</td>
<td>247682</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilton School</td>
<td>John Neale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Shaun Baker</td>
<td>245094</td>
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<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Jen Walton</td>
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<td>Sandra Waldrin-Walker</td>
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<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Annette Gedney</td>
<td>244442</td>
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<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Julie Quy</td>
<td>243026</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Carol Warren (07508) 502534</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Junction</td>
<td>Kerry</td>
<td>229130</td>
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<td>Mrs Croll</td>
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<td>Pat Maltman</td>
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<td>Sylvia Ward</td>
<td>242457</td>
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<td>Stuart Reed</td>
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<td>Olive Main</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Iris Smith</td>
<td>07599 846341</td>
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<td>Jessica Lockhart</td>
<td>07977 131498</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Peter Leaton</td>
<td>245851</td>
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<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Brian Bowen</td>
<td>241310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Simon Trowbridge</td>
<td>07894 552198</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Brian Appleyard</td>
<td>244642</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Glen Woolner</td>
<td>07771 784643</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet at the Pump</td>
<td>Shirley Gregory</td>
<td>246209</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outside The Talbot</td>
<td>Linda Smith</td>
<td>240478</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yaxley Health Centre</td>
<td>Linda Smith</td>
<td>240478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARESCO</td>
<td>Lyn</td>
<td>01487 832105</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Where to do it & who to do it with!

Are we up to date? Tell SCAN about your activities!
STILTON & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

HISTORIC WEEKEND
IN FRANCE

20 - 22 June 2014

Join us in the historic city of Amiens

- Executive coach via the Channel Tunnel
- Two nights B&B
- Quality 3-star hotel in the city centre
- Sunday lunch at a gourmet restaurant
- Visit the unique Museum of the Great War at Peronne
- Visit the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme

Itinerary

- Pick-up from Stilton or Folksworth at 7:00 am (tbc) on Friday 20 June
- Visit Peronne Friday afternoon
- Arrive Amiens approx 5 p.m
- Return Stilton/Folksworth approx 9 pm on Sunday

£219 per person, all inclusive

Contact Audrey and Paul for details: 241739 paul.springford@gmail.com
Looking After Your Stilton

IF YOU CAN KEEP IT LONG ENOUGH, THAT IS!

Stilton cheese should be kept in the fridge, unless you have a cool cellar, or even the garage in the cold weather! Bring it out two hours before you intend to serve it.

It goes well with a sweet dessert wine or port, walnuts and pears, or sweet chutney. Try accompanying it with plum bread instead of biscuits. What is left can be wrapped in foil or cling film and put back in the fridge.

A whole Stilton is a huge piece of cheese. If you want to push the boat out in style this Christmas it makes a very impressive centrepiece, but you have to look after it. Cut off the top centimetre to make a "lid" then cut individual portions as wedges keeping the top as level as possible.

The wedges will freeze for up to six months, although it will gradually lose flavour and become more crumbly. Alternatively, share it out among your friends and family!

NEVER scoop out the middle of the cheese - it just exposes more cheese to the air and dries it out. NEVER drench it in port; just serve it with a generous glassful. You don’t even need butter on the crackers; Stilton is naturally very creamy and butter can actually detract from the flavour.

January’s SCAN will feature a recipe using leftover Stilton Cheese!

Workers’ Educational Association, Yaxley branch

The European Catastrophe 1914-45

A ten-week course by tutor Stephen Corley

The British Legion Clubroom, Yaxley
starting Tuesday 14th January, from 7:30 - 9:00 pm

The course aims to provide an understanding of the key events of the period and an awareness of some of the main areas of historical controversy.

Fee £45.30

For further information, Tel: Diana Cleverley - (01733) 240010
This year's Flu Vaccination campaign started in October with two open clinics scheduled for Saturdays 5th and 19th October 2013.

Over the two days we had over 40 staff in; doctors, nurses, IT, reception and admin staff all helping to make the clinic go as smoothly as possible.

2211 ‘flu injections were given over the two days; further clinic dates were made available during November to accommodate those who couldn't manage the Saturdays.

During both the Saturdays members of the Patients’ Association were selling raffle tickets to raise funds for the surgery. All prizes were generously donated by local residents and businesses, to whom we would like to say a huge 'thank you' for their support.

The draw was made by Practice Manager Mrs. Shirley Drawwater on 22 October and all winners have been notified.

We want to thank everyone who so generously bought raffle tickets and helped us to raise a superb £631.35. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Linda Smith
Patients’ Association Librarian

Smoking Cessation Clinics

(Please note change of clinic times)

We have a specialist smoking cessation advisor who visits the practice twice a week. He can offer specialised one-to-one face to face or telephone support, and can supply nicotine replacement and drug therapy on prescription.

You are four times more likely to quit with help from the NHS

Appointments are available on Thursday afternoons and every Friday morning. Please ring reception on 01733 240478 to arrange an appointment or for further information please contact Steven Tibbs, Smoking Cessation Advisor on 07908 408 743.

This website may also help you:
http://smokefree.nhs.uk

Help to stop smoking is available from CAMQUIT the Cambridgeshire stop smoking service. For help and advice, ring 0800 018 4304 or visit www.camquit.nhs.uk

Bereavement Support Group

The Bereavement Support Group meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Health Education Room between 2 - 3:30pm.

This is your opportunity to find friendly support, fellowship and refreshments.

2014 meeting dates are as follows:

22nd January
26th February
26th March
23rd April
28th May
25th June
The District Nursing Team

The District Nurse Team are delighted to welcome back Community Staff Nurse Nicola Knight who started back with them on 4 November.

Retirement

Shirley Drawwater who has been our Practice Manager is sadly leaving.

Shirley has been an extremely hard working, trustworthy and approachable manager who has taken the practice through many different changes and challenges.

She was initially appointed on a temporary contract covering maternity leave in the IT department some fifteen years ago, but was soon promoted to her present role.

She has been a stalwart supporter of the Patients’ Association and its activities. Perhaps the highlight of her acting abilities was being a bumble bee in the 2008 staff pantomime; she also played a significant role in organising the 2003 staff ‘Calendar Girls’ pictures.

She has made significant contributions to, and been an active member of, the Peterborough Practice Managers group.

I think that the best tribute I can make is that her office door has always been open. She would always try and bring the best out of the many people who knocked on her door and try to seek a solution to the many and varied problems which were presented to her.

She is the consummate ‘people person’ with a ready smile on her face. We will all miss her.

Dr. Richard Withers

Welcome to...

We warmly welcome our new Business Manager Rebecca Powell, who joined us on 28th October. We are looking forward to working with her and are confident that YGP will benefit from her extensive experience.

‘I am really excited about my new role as Business Manager at YGP and am delighted and grateful to have this opportunity,’ said Rebecca. ‘I believe healthcare is something that is really fundamental to all our well-being and I welcome the chance to be part of a service that is so important and that can make a real difference to us all on a day to day basis. I am looking forward to working with the team, working together to build on the excellent work already carried out here, and rising to the challenges and changes that we will encounter over the coming years.’

Diary Dates

CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

We will be closed on:

- Christmas Day
- Boxing Day
- Wednesday 1st January 2014

We will be open on Saturday 28th December in the morning only.

Please make sure you have sufficient medication to cover the festive period.

The Doctors and Staff wish you all a very Happy and Healthy Festive Season.

CARER SUPPORT GROUP

The next meetings will be on Wednesdays 4th December and 8th January 2014; 2pm - 4pm in the Health Education Room.

We are always keen to welcome any carer to our small but friendly group. For more information please speak to Linda in the Patients Library. All carers are welcome!
Keeping Well
News from the Wellside Clinic
(01487) 830340

‘Flu Vaccination
Patients falling within the following at-risk categories are entitled to the vaccination:
- Aged 65 or above
- Chronic respiratory disease or asthma which requires continuous or repeated use of inhaled or systemic steroids
- Chronic heart disease
- Chronic renal disease
- Chronic liver disease
- Chronic neurological disease
- Diabetes
- Patients who are immunosuppressed
- Patients who are at any stage of pregnancy
- If you receive a carer’s allowance, or if you are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person whose welfare would be at risk if you were taken ill.

If you haven't had your vaccination yet, please call our reception team on (01487) 830340 to make an appointment.

MMR Vaccinations
UPDATE
A national MMR ‘catch up’ programme is now underway in response to the fact that outbreaks of measles within the country are significantly increasing.

As part of this programme we have invited patients born between 01.01.97 and 31.12.03 to attend for vaccination if their records indicate that they have not previously had any MMR vaccinations. If your child has previously had single vaccines it is still recommended to have two full MMRs for full protection against measles; we are in the process of inviting patients who fall into this category. In the meantime, if you are aware that your child has only had one previous MMR you are welcome to call us to book an appointment for the second dose.

We are also able to provide the vaccination to any patient born on or before 31.12.98 who has not previously been vaccinated nor acquired natural immunity during their lifetime; particularly those under the age of 30 who are unlikely to have acquired natural immunity. Patients in this group should contact our reception team and make an appointment to see one of our practice nurses.

Change of Computer System
Our new system was successfully installed at the end of October. Thank you all for your patience during this transitional period.

In our last newsletter I advised that the system for booking online appointments would also be changing. We subsequently discovered that we were able to retain our original appointment system so I can confirm that existing usernames and passwords for Appointments Online are still active.
### Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opening Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23rd Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual (evening surgery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 24th Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 25th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 26th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 28th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 29th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 30th Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual (evening surgery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 31st Jan</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 1st Jan</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 2nd Jan</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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During the Christmas/New Year period please make sure you order your repeat prescriptions in plenty of time and remember that it takes two full working days to process your request.

On behalf of everyone at Wellside Surgery I would like to wish all our patients and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best Regards

Mrs Claire Wright
Practice Manager

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**Healthwatch Cambridgeshire**

**YOUR SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

Launched in July 2013, Healthwatch Cambridgeshire is the new champion for people using local health and social care services. We work to ensure that people's voices are heard in making important decisions about local NHS, social care and public health services.

We talk to people in the local community about their experience of the care they receive to help us understand how well local care services are working. We make sure we feed this information back where it matters to the people buying, providing and regulating local care services.

- **Tell us about your health & social care experiences.** We want to hear about the good and not so good, as this feedback can help improve care for everyone.
- **Join our Consultation Network,** which will connect you with organisations that should know about your experiences and opinions of care in Cambridgeshire.
- **Get problems resolved…** We can make sure you know where to go if you need to sort out a problem with a local care provider. We can give you information about how different complaints systems work and who can help you get your complaint resolved.
- **Find out about local care.** We are developing a Signposting & Information Service, to help you find out about your choice of health & social care services.

Find out more about Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and get involved by:

- calling us on 01480 420628
- or emailing us at enquiries@healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk
- or visiting our website:
  - www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in **SCAN!**
Recent figures released by OFCOM show that around 10,000 unsolicited marketing calls and 3,000 silent calls are received by UK consumers every month. Most are made between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday.

As well as interrupting whatever you are doing at the time, many such callers use pressure selling to persuade you to agree to something without giving you the chance to consider it properly.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

Firstly, register with the Telephone Preference Service. The service is free and can reduce the number of unsolicited marketing calls from UK companies. You can register by calling 08450 700 707 or by visiting www.tpsonline.org.uk.

Secondly, ask your telephone service provider what call blocking technology they recommend. Scottish Trading Standards authorities recently tested some of the latest call blocking devices and found them to be very effective. Some providers also offer their own call blocking facilities. There may be a charge involved for such a device.

Thirdly, if you need to give your phone number to a business, make sure you opt out of receiving promotional information from them and third parties by ticking the relevant box on their website or clearly stating this if you are dealing with them on the telephone.

Fourthly, become ex-directory as some businesses use phone directories to compile marketing call lists.

Finally, many nuisance calls originate from overseas so ask your telephone provider to block international calls to your number (there may be a charge for this service).

Never divulge personal details such as your bank details to a cold caller, regardless of who they claim to be (Police, your bank etc) and never agree to any loans or credit over the phone.

**DEALING WITH COLD CALLERS**

When dealing with pressure selling on the telephone, remember that it is likely they are using this technique because their prices are uncompetitive - they don't want you to have time to compare their prices with other companies. False claims that this is a 'one day only' offer or that the price is hugely discounted are common tactics.

Tell the caller you are not interested and ask them not to contact you again. If they ignore your request, report them to the Information Commissioner (ICO) online at www.ico.org.uk or by phone 0303 123 1113. You can also report automated pre-recorded calls to ICO. If possible make a note of the business name, the number they called from, the date and time they called and what they were trying to 'sell' eg. PPI, accident claim, credit. You should also make the ICO aware of any distress, damage or loss you suffered as a result of these calls.

If you need advice on anything you have bought or agreed to as a result of such a cold call, contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline, on 0845 404 0506.