Merry Christmas!

OPEN ALL HOURS
HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY
CAN YOU JOIN THE TEAM?

PROJECT PROGRESS
REPORT ON THE VILLAGE PAVILION PROJECT

IN MEMORIAM
REMEMBERING A FORMER HEADMASTER OF STILTON SCHOOL
Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!

GREY BIN DAYS:
Monday 8th December,
Tuesday 6th January

GARDEN BIN AND RECYCLING DAYS:
Monday 1st, 15th, 30th December
Monday 12th January

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

NOW RECYCLING BOTTLES
Vacancy on Parish Council
CAN YOU GIVE SOME TIME AND KNOWLEDGE TO STILTON?

Following the resignation of John Warner, Stilton Parish Council is now following the procedure to find a new councillor. This takes several weeks and at the time of writing is not complete. However, anyone who is interested is asked to contact the Clerk, Mrs Croll on 241042 or 10 Caldecote Road or mary_croll@yahoo.co.uk.

**ELIGIBILITY**

You must be:

- **Over 21 years of age**
- **An elector**
- **Reside in the locality or:**
  - within 3 miles or
  - be the owner or tenant of land or premises in Stilton or
  - principal place of work is in Stilton

The term of office comes to an end in May 2015 when there will be local elections. Selection Candidates will be asked to make a written application, giving information on their interest in serving the community and any prior relevant experience. There will also be an interview. All details are on the notice boards.

**Church Close**

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

Mr Alan Butten is the new Street Rep for the Luminus bungalows in Church Close. He has come up with plans to give access to the properties by the provision of a paved roadway across the green so that cars/buggies, delivery vehicles can get to front doors.

Stilton Parish Council endorses this plan; there are obvious benefits to the residents but also it could go some way to solving the parking problem on the bend in Church Close where there are frequent collisions and the buses and emergency vehicles are impeded.

**Merry Christmas!**

We hope December's SCAN will both inform and entertain. It is a huge task compiling all the Christmas opening hours; these are as accurate as possible but have to be compiled in advance, so there may be changes. That is why a contact telephone number is included where possible. January's SCAN will not be available until the second week of the month. Even we have to have a break, as does the Caresco Print Shop.

*Olive Main, Editor*
Get your licence the easy way

Practise the Highway Code online for free for car, motorbike, lorry or bus

www.rightdriver.co.uk

All the official DVSA revision questions that you can practise for free. Works on your phone, computer or tablet.
Stilton Over-60's Club

Despite one and a half inches of rain (we still can't get our heads round millimetres) 20 members went on the outing to Springfields Shopping Outlet near Spalding. We would like to thank Nisa for sponsoring this trip.

There have been two very successful outings to Morrisons in Stamford. There may be more in 2015 - watch this space early next year.

We wish all our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Club continues to meet on Friday afternoons in the Church Meeting Room. For more details please contact either Sylvia Ward on 242247, Doreen Clark on 242643 or Philip Scott-Sandy on 241492.

Stilton Memorial Hall News

Two very efficient new hand dryers have been installed by Retelec (Rob Tappenden). Eugene King has repainted the handrails and front steps, which will make the entrance much safer. The Committee has had a spring-clean and so the Hall, kitchen and toilets are all spick and span!

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
In Memoriam
GLATTON EMERTON 1920 - 2014

Readers of a certain age will be saddened to learn of the passing of another Stilton resident who made a significant contribution to village life. We are indebted to his son, David Emerton, for providing this obituary:

My father was born in Glatton and named after the village. He was brought up in Northamptonshire and around Peterborough where he was a pupil of Deacon's school. After teacher training early in the Second World War he was an equipment officer in the RAF. He married Dorothy and was a teacher in Liverpool and Farcet before being appointed headmaster of Stilton school in 1955. It was then an all-age school and he taught the older secondary pupils as well as boys' games. We lived in the school house next to the two original classrooms.

He was Clerk to the Parish Council, having responsibilities for the layout of the cemetery and answering interesting correspondence about Stilton cheese. He also chaired the Norman Cross Road Safety Committee. Around 1960, he led some family services at Stilton church when there was no Rector.

Soon after that, building work started on the new school. He moved to be headmaster of St Anne's school in Grantham in 1962 when Stilton became a Primary School and the secondary pupils were educated outside the village. He retired in 1982.

He and my mother visited us twice in Tanzania when we were working there. In 1994 they moved to Teesside to be near our family. He lived independently at home until last year when he moved into a care home where he died peacefully.

ANY MEMORIES?

As such a major contributor to Stilton life, we are sure Mr Emerton must have left many lasting and happy memories with those who knew him, whether from the school, the Parish Council, the church or socially.

If you would like to share your memories, either in the pages of SCAN or privately to his son David, the Editor will be pleased to receive them.
The village meeting concerning the Stilton Amenities Project took place on 8th November.

REAL PROGRESS

Mark Angus, Chair of the Stilton Amenities Steering Group, gave a detailed report about the project. Those present were delighted at the recent grant award of £75,000 by Sport England. This will now open the way to further Lottery Grant awarding bodies, such as the Football Foundation. Work on the field upgrade has begun and will be completed in the Spring of 2015.

RAISING THE WIND

Mark urged local groups and organisations to hold fundraising events to support the project. Grant assessors always ask ‘What are you doing as a community to support this project?’ Local fundraising has already reached over £20,000 which is a considerable achievement, but every little helps.

WELL DONE!

The meeting congratulated the Steering Group members on the progress made so far and their four years of dedicated commitment to the project.

The Amenities Group would welcome anyone who can support, advise and expertise. How about it? Building work could start in the summer of 2015.....if all goes well!

The next steps will be:

- preparation of grant applications
- further refinements to the building plans
- detailed planning of the Children's play area
- issuing of tender specifications to local trades people
- completion of the field upgrade
- support for local fundraising

Project Milestones
VILLAGE AMENITIES PROJECT PROGRESS
School News
A BUSY AUTUMN TERM AT STILTON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Children in Rabbit, Badger and Hedgehog classes recently visited the Fitzwilliam museum in Cambridge. The children studied Ancient Egyptian artefacts and had a look at other areas of the museum, including the pottery, armoury and art galleries.

Owl Class are learning about celebrations, thinking about why we celebrate certain events. The children started the half term by celebrating bonfire night and made their own fireworks out of coloured paper and card. Robin class have been busy writing their own versions of 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. Otter class have been learning about different parts of the world and thinking about where they would like to live. Owl and Robin class have also started having reading afternoons on Fridays, where grown-ups are invited into school to read with their children. It has been wonderful to see so many grown-ups joining in!

On 11th November we had an RE day, focusing on remembrance of World War 1. Children in Key Stage 2 took part in drama workshops, where they were thinking about what it was like to fight in the trenches. Across the school, we were thinking about what peace means and how we can show peace in school. The children also made poppies using a variety of art techniques and they wrote their own remembrance poems. Two of our Year 6 children attended the remembrance service at the church and did a reading.

SCHOOL ALARMS

For safety reasons, we would like to remind Stilton residents to please not approach the school if an alarm is heard coming from the premises. We have designated members of staff who are automatically contacted if the fire or burglar alarm goes off. They will then take any appropriate action. Many thanks for helping us to keep everyone safe.
Last half term our children had fun learning about Diwali by reading the Diwali story and making clay tea lights. To support their learning the children also enjoyed scraping out pumpkins and drawing faces on them. After an adult cut the faces out, the children extended their learning by deciding to dress them up in hats!

For firework night we learnt how to keep safe, made some lovely firework pictures and for snack the children made hotdogs and bread stick sprinklers! Yum Yum! Without even knowing it the children have been learning about shapes, numbers and letter sounds and to help support our Polish children we have been listening to Polish music and looking at Polish books.

We are all very excited about this half term, decorating Playgroup up for our special visitor on the 15th of December. (In line with the EYFS we will also be learning a lot, but don't tell the children!)

Thank you for your continued support and Merry Christmas to everyone.

Watch for Santa!

Santa and his little helpers will be visiting Stilton on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December between 4-6pm.

Be sure to wave to him as he flies past on his sleigh - and put some money in his helpers’ buckets for Playgroup!

In support of Stilton Playgroup

Christmas Fete

Sunday 14th December 10am-12pm
at Stilton Village Memorial Hall

Come along with your pennies for some tasty cakes, festive shopping and fun activities for the children

Featuring a special visitor from the North Pole!
**TRANSPORT - RAIL**

No service on Christmas Day, Boxing Day.
Early close on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Engineering works will affect services on 27 and 28 Dec. National Rail enquiries 08457 484950.

**TRANSPORT - BUSES**

Stagecoach routes 46, 46A and B Bus
46A - Normal service except no buses on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

HACT (01480 411114) 46 and B - early close on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. No buses Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.
Stagecoach Peterborough - 207860

**PETROL**

BP Yaxley (244233) NO closures. Open 24 hours.
Serpentine Green (410545) Closed Christmas Day; otherwise closes one hour after Tesco closes.

**EMERGENCY PHARMACY**

Christmas Day Millfield 387 Lincoln Road Peterborough 10am-6pm
Boxing Day Boots Serpentine Green 9am-6pm

**MEDICAL**

Peterborough Minor Illness and Injury Unit, Thorpe Road (293800) Closed on Christmas Day and New Years Day. For help when the Unit is closed ring NHS 111 if your condition is not life threatening. Ring 999 if it is an urgent life-threatening emergency.

Dentist: Peterborough Dental Access Centre (0800 952 0870) Or ring your dentist for a recorded message.

Wellside Surgery, Sawtry - see p31
YGP, Yaxley - see p20

**ROYAL MAIL**

**LAST RECOMMENDED POSTING DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Last Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia, Far East</td>
<td>3rd December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
<td>4th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>8th December</td>
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<td>Canada and Poland</td>
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<td>USA</td>
<td>12th December</td>
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<td>Western Europe</td>
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<td>2nd Class</td>
<td>18th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Class</td>
<td>23rd December</td>
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**COLLECTIONS & DELIVERIES**

NO collections or deliveries Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Years Day.

Stilton Post Office Normal opening hours except closes at 12.30pm on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.
LOCAL SERVICES

The Talbot (240291)

24th December 12pm - 12am
(food until 8pm)
25th December 11.30 - 3pm (no food)
31st December 12pm -1am
(food 12pm -8pm)
1st January 4pm-11pm (no food)

The Bell (241066)

24th December bar 2-3pm & 6-11pm
Food available to 11pm
25th December bar 12pm-2pm No food
26th December bar 11am-5pm
Food 12pm-4pm
Bistro 11am-5pm
31st December bar 12-3pm & 7pm-1am
Food while bar open
1st January bar 12-6pm
No food in the evening

Because there are different hours for the bar, bistro and restaurant you are advised to check in advance.

The Stilton Cheese (240546)

23rd December open evening only
24th December open
25th & 26th December closed
27th December open
28th December open lunchtime
29th December closed
30th December open evening only
31st December open
1st January closed

Angel Spice

Mon-Thurs 12-2:30pm, 5-11:30pm
Fri & Sat 5pm-12:30
Sun 12pm-11.30pm
25th Dec 12-5pm
26th Dec 5-10pm (no lunch)
31st Dec 5pm - late.
Music from 9:45pm

Happy Christmas and New Year from The Stilton Cheese

Carlos and Sue would like to express a massive thank you to everybody who has supported them over the past few months.

Their staff, Mick, Zoë, Steph, Scott, Kerry, Tina and all the waiting staff have been fantastic during a very traumatic time.

SHOPS

Tesco Supermarket Hampton

24th December closes 7pm
25th December closed
26th December open 9am-6pm
31st December closes 7pm
1st January open 9am-6pm

McColls (246313)

Open as usual; closed on Christmas Day.

Nisa

Open every day but limited hours on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. Opening at 10am. See notices in shop for closing times.
The Stilton & District Twinning Association held another successful Quiz Night on 15th November. Such is the strength of their relationship with their twin association in the south of France that they arranged for them to take part in the quiz via a Skype link.

As eight teams gathered in the Stilton Memorial Hall on the Saturday evening, the team representing St Christol les Ales met at the home of Sylvie Cordaro (who is a past President of their Association de Jumelage/Twinning Association).

The questions had been emailed to France ahead of the quiz by Tim Alban, Question Master for the night, and the French team joined in the first round about each other’s countries. The French did well on Euro Pop, reasonably well on local knowledge, and scored maximum points on what they knew about the UK and France - beating some of their English counterparts.

Speaking after the event, Stilton’s Twinning Chairman, Chris Walford said, ‘It was a great evening and the link to our friends in St Christol - a first - made it extra special. Huge thanks go to Tim Alban and Olive Main for setting up the link and arranging the questions.’
We Remembered Them
HONOURING STILTON’S WAR DEAD

Stilton honoured its war dead at a parade service at Stilton Church on the 9th November and the Remembrance Day ceremony in the cemetery on 11th November.

Poppy wreaths were placed on the three war graves by Tilly Warren, Jess Jubb and Kizzy Thistleton, all members of Stilton Guides. They also represented Sawtry Community College, while two students also represented Stilton School. The Royal British Legion were, as always, present on both occasions.

We Remembered Them
HONOURING STILTON’S WAR DEAD

15 - 20 April Group visit from St Christol
4 May Sponsorship of Cheese Rolling Junior Championship
26 - 28 June Weekend visit to France - watch for details
6 May 2013 Cheese Rolling - sponsoring the Junior Championships
Coming up Dinner Dance in aid of the Village Amenities project Race Night

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

Funds raised by the Association provide for travel grants for young people on exchange visits to St Christol and activities here when groups visit from St Christol.
Students from Sawtry Community College recently returned from trips to Iceland and Spain where they found out about new cultures and improved their language skills...as well as taking part in salsa dancing and exploring waterfalls!

A five-day trip in October saw a number of Geography students from Years 10, 11 and 12 travelling to Iceland to discover its unique landscapes. The group visited glaciers, swam in geothermal pools, explored waterfalls, experienced Icelandic culture and witnessed the Northern Lights.

Trip leader Keith Hicks said, ‘Our students had a fantastic time experiencing the huge variety of volcanic, glacial, river and coastal features that Iceland has to offer. The trip was hugely relevant in enabling students to put Geography into a real context’.

A five-day trip to Spain enabled students to develop their language skills in the idyllic lagoon of Murcia. Students immersed themselves in Spanish culture, participating in cookery lessons, watersports, salsa dancing, shopping in local markets and visiting Cartagena, Murcia and the San Pedro nature reserve.

Trip leader Mrs Habib O'Grady was delighted that, within five days, the students were more confident in speaking Spanish. ‘It is important for students to immerse themselves in a country's culture to practice speaking the language,’ she explained. ‘Fully understanding how Spanish people live, speak and work really helped to engage students, making it a more enjoyable way to learn than solely in the classroom. I was particularly impressed at how much more the students absorbed when they were able to practice the key phrases they had learnt by interviewing local Spanish people’.

Although both destinations were very different, the main goal was the same - to raise academic standards through learning outside the classroom, increase pupils' personal development, social and cultural awareness and make learning more relevant and fun.
You are warmly invited to our services over Christmas, which are in Stilton church unless otherwise specified. Also mentioned below are Christmas and carol services in other churches within our group of parishes.

**SUN 14TH DEC**
- 8:00am  Stilton  Holy Communion bcp
- 11:00am Stilton  Christingle Service
- 3:00pm  Morborne  Carol Service
- 6:00pm  Elton  service & carols in the Black Horse

**WED 17TH DEC**
- 7:30am  Stilton  Holy Communion bcp
- 7:30pm  Stilton  Ladies Holy Communion

**THURS 18TH DEC**
- 6:00pm  Haddon  Carols in the village

**FRI 19TH DEC**
- 7:00pm  Stilton  Carols in the Courtyard Bell Inn

**SAT 20TH DEC**
- 4:00pm  Denton  Carols by Candlelight

**SUN 21ST DEC**
- 10:00am Folksworth  worship & carols
- 11:00am Stilton Holy Communion cw
- 11:00am Haddon Family Service with carols
- 6:00pm  Stilton  Carol Service

**TUES 23RD DEC**
- 6:00pm  Haddon Outdoor nativity

**WED 24TH DEC - CHRISTMAS EVE**
- 3:00pm  Folksworth  All-age family service
- 8:00pm  Elton  Midnight in Bethlehem  hc
- 11:30pm  Stilton  Midnight Holy Communion cw

**THURS 25TH DEC - CHRISTMAS DAY**
- 10:30am  Haddon  All-age family service
- 10:30am  Elton  Service with methodist church
- 10:00am  Folksworth Holy Communion cw

**SUN 28TH DEC**
- 8:00am  Stilton Holy Communion bcp
- 11:00am  Stilton  Elevenses with God

**WED 31ST DEC**
- 6:30pm  Peterborough Cathedral 'Hope Service'
I'm always pleased to be given a bright, flowering plant for Christmas, but then I worry that it won't survive. Here is some advice on keeping the 'usual suspects' alive and even getting them to survive until next year.

**A BOWL OF HYACINTHS**

As a present, you will get the bulbs almost in flower. Keep them in a light place, keep the compost moist. Once they have flowered most experts advice throwing the exhausted bulbs away but I find they flower well for two or three years in the garden.

**CYCLAMEN**

Water from underneath when the soil is dry to the touch. Take off any dead flowers and the plant will go on flowering for some weeks.

**AZALEA**

Take off any dead flowers and you should keep it for up to six weeks. It needs a cool room, away from heaters. It is best watered with rain water, but keep it on the dry side.

**CHRISTMAS CACTUS**

One of the best to grow. It doesn't mind central heating, eight hours of light will do. After flowering keep it quite dry for about four weeks and don't fertilise until new growth starts.

**POINSETTIA**

This suffers if it is outside too long, so rush it from the shop to the car. Avoid any plant with green edges on the bracts. In 2008, BBC's *The One Show* challenged viewers to get plants to flower again the next year. If you are up for it look on their website. It seems a lot of trouble for a plant that is a weed in its native Mexico. To enjoy it now give it as much sunlight as possible. Keep it warm, water when the surface feels dry, but don't sit it in water.

---

**Stilton Gardening & Natural History Club**

**Tuesday, Dec 16th 7:30pm**

**Church Meeting Room**

**Christmas Party**

*Bring some party food to share*

*Raffle*

Members £1, visitors £2

**Thursday January 29th**

**Wild swan feed at Welney**

Leave Stilton 3:30pm returning 9pm.

Cost will be about £15-£18.

Tea/cakes etc on arrival

Interested? Please contact Olive Main (241206) or olive.main@tiscali.co.uk
Catering for vegetarians over Christmas can be a challenge. This dish that uses traditional vegetables and is adapted from an idea of Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall. He served the original with large baked mushrooms to take the place of meat, so everyone can eat it.

Use any combination of root vegetables; potatoes and parsnips will probably come first, but carrots, celeriac or swede will also add to the pot.

Butter a large ovenproof dish. Preheat the oven to 180°C/ Gas Mark 4.

Sauté two chopped onions in butter until soft. Add two cloves of garlic, if liked. Peel and thinly slice the other vegetables. Layer them in the dish, with the onions placed between the layers. Season each layer and sprinkle over chopped sage and thyme leaves. Finish with a layer of potatoes.

Pour in about one litre of vegetable stock, barely covering the top layer. Cover with foil and bake for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake for another 30 minutes so that all the vegetables are cooked and the top is browned. You might like to sprinkle grated cheese on top.

You can use leftover vegetables instead of the above - squashes, Jerusalem artichokes, even apples all taste good.

Please remember the Foodbank when you do your Christmas grocery shopping. This is always a busy time for the food bank, so your donations are more than usually welcome. Why not look for things like Christmas puddings, grape juice, but not mince pies please! They are too delicate and crumble easily.
Yaxley Library Scrabble Club will be four years old in December. Over the years members have enjoyed many a stimulating game alongside lots of laughs and chocolate biscuits. New members are always welcome. The group meet every Monday afternoon from 3pm - why not come along and join in?

RHYMETIME & STORYTIME

Our popular Rhymetime event, aimed at babies from 0-18 months, continues on Fridays at 10:30am. Storytime, for children aged 18 months to 5 years, runs on Tuesdays 2nd and 16th December at 10:30am.

C.V. WORKSHOP

Careers Guidance Advisor Miles Davies will be holding a C.V workshop in Yaxley Library on Monday 26th January from 10am to midday. If you are aged 19 or over and would like some help with your c.v. please call in to Yaxley Library to book a free place. (limited availability - hurry!)

HIGHWAYS INFORMATION

Drop in session - Local Highways Officer Les Middleton will be in Yaxley Library on alternate Thursday mornings from 10am to midday. Les will be available to discuss any issues or concerns relating to public highways that you may have.

Do you need information and advice? Are you living with a long-term illness or disability; provide unpaid support to adult family members, or are struggling with an age-related condition? If you have answered yes, why not come along to the adult support drop in session on 16th December from 10am to midday?

EngAge IN THE AFTERNOON

The December EngAge session will be a Christmas Quiz. This event takes place on Wednesday 17th December at 2pm. To book a free ticket, please call in to Yaxley Library from 1st December.

CHRISTMAS DIARY DATES

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our Christmas opening times are as follows:

Monday 22nd December 3pm-7pm
Tuesday 23rd December 9:30am-5pm
Wednesday 24th December -Thursday 1st January 2015 -CLOSED
Friday 2nd January 9:30am-1:30pm

Christmas Dingbats

1. Midnight mass
2. Turkey leftovers
3. Frankincense
4. Peace on earth
5. Opening presents
6. Time
7. Noel, Noel
8. Presents under the tree
9. White Christmas
10. White Christmas
11. Session's Resolutions
12. Christmas Miss
13. Merry Christmas
14. Peace on earth
15. Noel, Noel
16. Presents under the tree
17. Midnight mass
18. Let's hope we all get some!
Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!

Mobile Library

Wed 24 Dec

3:10 - 4pm
Outside The Talbot

Route M24

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

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

Free Shopping Bus

TRY A FOOD SHOP IN OUNDLE FOR A CHANGE

Readers who fancy a change from food shopping at Tesco or Nisa may welcome a new shuttle bus service operated for the Co-op at Oundle. Decker Bus will stop in Stilton every Thursday morning as follows:

09:45 Church Close bus stop
09:47 Colbrook Garage
09:50 Opposite Stilton Cheese
09:52 Mill Road bus stop

Apparently it will even stop if you hail it, so don’t run to the bus stop!

The bus arrives in Oundle for 10:45 and departs at 12:15pm. Plenty of time for some shopping at the Co-op or a browse around the Thursday Farmers’ Market!

Even better, the service is FREE! If you have any queries, call (01733) 351694.

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Farewell
MESSAGE FROM 
DR CHRIS GRANT

When I was asked if I would consider writing a farewell message, I was tempted initially to write about what the practice and the village were like when I came here and how much had changed. Interesting as that may be, it is the future that is important as the past can only be learnt from and not changed. The future is something we all have a responsibility to work with to make the best we can from it.

Personally, I have been immensely privileged to have been allowed to share the lives of so many kind, generous, interesting and sometimes hugely courageous people. There are so many both past and present whom I will always remember. I am grateful to have worked in such an excellent medical practice and would like to thank the doctors and staff I have worked with during my time here for their support and sometimes forbearance. I have many continuing links with the village and will continue to visit frequently in the future, so this is more au revoir rather than goodbye.

Chris Grant

Memory Loss

- Do you have any concerns about your memory?
- What is normal?

Most of us forget things every day, like people's names, or why we walked into a room, but this is not necessarily a sign of dementia.

Memory loss can have many causes, including getting older, stress, anxiety or depression. Some medicines have side effects that can cause memory loss. In dementia, memory loss is more serious than forgetting things occasionally.

If you have concerns about your memory or someone else's then please speak to Linda in the Patients' Library who can carry out a simple questionnaire. Following this, if further intervention is necessary your GP will contact you to discuss.

Christmas Closures

We will be closed on:
- Christmas Day
- Boxing Day
- Thursday 1st January 2015

We will be open on Saturday 27th 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.
Ear Syringing

The numbers of patients requiring ear syringing is increasing. As a result of this the amount of nurse time taken up to do this is limiting appointments being made available for other things.

Ear syringing can be fairly traumatic to the lining of the ear canal and can lead to infections and pain. Therefore we are encouraging patients to use an over-the-counter remedy such as:

1. Otex Drops or the Otex Combi, which breaks up and disperses ear wax, is much gentler and is easy to use.

2. Sodium Bicarbonate ear drops are used to soften dry or hardened earwax.

If neither remedy works for you then syringing is still available at YGP.

Thank you

During both Flu Clinics held on Saturday 4th and 18th October, 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 on the 22nd October and the winners were notified. A list of the winners is on our PA notice board.

We want to thank everyone who helped us to raise a superb £635. Your support and generosity once again this year is greatly appreciated!

Linda Smith
Patients’ Association Librarian

Now Available at YGP

ONLINE APPOINTMENT BOOKING AND REPEAT PRESCRIPTION REQUEST SERVICE

You can use this service to make or cancel Appointments and make any Repeat Medication requests that have been pre-authorised by your Doctor.

A limited number of Doctors' telephone call-backs are now available to book online, to be booked the NIGHT BEFORE for the following day. This is in addition to the appointments already available to book online.

- Doctors’ telephone call-backs
- INRs Smears
- Diabetes Annual Reviews
- Chronic Heart Disease
- Purple Clinics (For patients who have more than one long term condition e.g. Hypertension, Asthma, CHD, COPD and CKD)
- Smoking Cessation
- Routine Bloods
- NHS Health Checks

To register for this new and exciting service please visit www.yaxleygp.nhs.uk

Please remember when booking your online appointment to give the telephone number on which you wish to be contacted.

COMING SOON!

View your medication history, your allergies and Mobile app to manage appointments and order prescriptions on the go.
Carer Support Group Meeting

The next meetings of the Carer Support Group will be on Wednesdays 3rd December 2014 and 7th January 2015 between 2-4pm in the Health Education Room.

If you care for a family member or friend then you would be welcome to join our small but friendly group for coffee, biscuits and a chat. For more information please speak to Linda in the Patients' Library.

All Carers will be made very welcome.

Merry Christmas!

The SCAN production, advertising and distribution team wish all our readers a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015.

Yaxley Flower Club

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dec tba</td>
<td>Charity Evening</td>
<td>15th Jan</td>
<td>Jim Green from Farcet Nurseries</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th Feb</td>
<td>Dora Mack Demonstration</td>
<td>19th Mar</td>
<td>AGM</td>
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*A New Year Begins*

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.

Stilton Stumblers

Winter Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>Wadenhoe</td>
<td>21 Dec</td>
<td>Stilton local</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Jan</td>
<td>Milton Park</td>
<td>18 Jan</td>
<td>Lyddington</td>
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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!
Accessing Adult 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.

Social care is personal and practical support to help people live their lives by supporting them to maintain their independence and dignity and ensuring they have choice and control over the support they receive. Many people don’t think about social care until they or someone they know need support, and then find they are unsure about where to find information or how to access the services they need.

Adult social care customer services are the initial point of contact for all social care enquiries. The trained staff know about the services available and can offer advice on who else may be able to help. Call them on 0345 045 5202. You can also find out more about adult social care in Cambridgeshire on the website below.

If you think you may need help with mental health issues you should contact your GP in the first instance.

www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk

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:

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>All Day (9am - 6pm)</th>
<th>Evening (6:30 - 10:30pm)</th>
<th>Half Day (9am - 1pm or 2 - 6pm)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£50</td>
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A deposit of £50 is required when booking.
Don’t miss

**Carols in the Courtyard**

Friday 19th December at 7pm

The Bell Inn courtyard

Enjoy good company, with mulled wine and mince pies

Join in with our best-loved Christmas carols

**Everyone welcome**

Even if you’re not a regular churchgoer, this traditional Stilton event is a great way to begin the season’s festivities, remind ourselves what Christmas is all about and meet up with friends old and new.

Bring the whole family. Why not book a table in the Bell for dinner afterwards?

See you there?

---

Yaxley Singers present:

**A Christmas Celebration**

Music, singing, poetry and more

Yaxley Methodist Church

Saturday, December 20th 2014 at 7:30pm

Adults £4  Children £2

(includes light refreshments)

Tickets available from Mary Croll (241042)

*Proceeds to Yaxley Methodist Church and Wateraid*
Workers’ Educational Association presents:

**Myths and Legends of Cambridgeshire and the Fens**

A 10-week course to be held at The British Legion Clubroom in Yaxley starting on Tuesday 13th January at 7:30-9:00 pm.

The fee is £48.00

The Course will explore some of the more popular myths and legends of the County, including locational details, who told the stories, where they were told and when.

For further information Tel. (01733) 240010

Just for Kids at One Leisure Sawtry

**Build a Reindeer**

22\textsuperscript{nd} December 14:00 – 15:30

The session costs £8.00

**School’s Out!**

A holiday kids club

22nd, 23\textsuperscript{rd} and 24\textsuperscript{th} December, 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 5\textsuperscript{th} January

Contact One Leisure 01480 387800 for more details

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Absolutely nothing provokes incandescent rage among our readers quite as much as the dog mess we find all over the footpaths; especially - of all places - around the school.

It even reduced one village parent to writing the following ‘doggerel’ (sorry!) to vent their frustration.

**THE SCHOOL RUN**

The school run is filled full of fun, wonder and... fear
The running, the cycling and dodging dog mess that appear.

Polished school shoes now smothered and covered in mess.
Coloured leather in shades of brown that distress.

The same lazy dog walkers don’t care
But it’s the panicking parents who are only too aware.

Why would you clear up or use your own gardens as cover
When you can leave it behind for others to discover.

It was not that long ago when a suspect used to hang dog bags in trees
So the scent could be rudely shared and carry in the breeze.

Though you’re asked to consider your lack of action for others
Still daily your crimes are witnessed by various sisters and brothers.

I know who you are who leaves your dog’s mess near Manor Road
So consider this a chance to now remove any new load.

Failing to do so and any further kids shoes you abolish
Will result in a visit with a smile, kids’ shoes and some polish.

SCAN says: If you know who the culprits are, then get some evidence so the Parish Council can bring a prosecution. That’s why smartphones have cameras!

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**Musicals Chairs answers**

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<tr>
<th>26</th>
<th>Calamity Jane</th>
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<td>Cats</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Cabaret</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Billa Eyre</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Grease</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Legally Blonde</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Seven Brides for Seven Brothers</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Casse</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Buddy</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>The King and I</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Hammer (He’s Pay’? Sorry)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>The Wizard of Oz</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Jersey Boys</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Blood Brothers</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>My Fair Lady</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Hello Dolly</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Oliver</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>West Side Story</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Mamma Mia</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Miss Saigon</td>
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<td>Fiddler on the Roof</td>
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<td>Les Miserables</td>
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<td>Chicago</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Gigi</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Calamity Jane</td>
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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 Clerk:
Jade Smith  15 Woodward Close  (01733) 735001

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!)

If using email, please be sure to give us your CORRECT email address and check your spam box if you don’t receive a prompt reply.
Keeping Well

News from the Wellside Clinic
(01487) 830340

‘Flu Vaccinations

Patients falling within the following at-risk categories are entitled to the vaccination:

- Aged 65 or above
- Chronic respiratory disease, such as severe asthma, COPD or bronchitis
- Chronic heart disease
- Chronic renal disease at stage 3, 4 or 5
- Chronic liver disease
- Chronic neurological disease
- Diabetes
- Patients who are immunosuppressed
- Patients who have a splenic dysfunction
- Patients who are at any stage of pregnancy
- Patients living in long-stay residential care homes
- 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 fall into one of the above categories, and would like a vaccination, please contact our Reception Team on 01487 830340.

We are also participating in the national programme to offer the ‘flu vaccination to all children who were aged 2, 3 or 4 on 1st September 2014. We are in the process of writing to invite this group of patients to attend.

Friends and Family Test

As of 1st December all general practices will be conducting the NHS Friends and Family Test. This is a way of gathering your feedback so that we can continually review our service. The test is based on one question: how likely are you to recommend our GP practice to friends and family if they needed similar care or treatment? You will also have the opportunity to tell us the main reason for selecting your answer. All of our patients are welcome to answer this question and you can do so as frequently as you wish. Response cards will be available in our waiting room and there will be the opportunity to participate online via our website.

Online Repeat Prescription Requests

In order to meet new contractual requirements, early in the New Year we will need to introduce a new online system for patients to use to request repeat prescriptions. In order to sign up, patients will need to complete a registration form and may be required to provide documentation to verify identity. Registration forms will be made available
in the waiting room in due course and an electronic copy will also be available to download from our website.

Once complete, you will need to hand your form in personally at reception and provide identification if requested. We anticipate the new system being operational from 12th January 2015. The existing system will remain operational alongside the new system until the end of February in order to give patients plenty of time to register for the new system.

Merry Christmas!

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

Christmas and New Year Opening Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 22nd Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 23rd Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual (evening surgery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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<td>Thur 25th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<td>Fri 26th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<td>Sat 27th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<td>Sun 28th Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 29th Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual (evening surgery)</td>
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<td>Tue 30th Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 31st Dec</td>
<td>Open as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 1st Jan</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 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.

Stilton Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs. Mary Croll
10 Caldecote Road, Stilton
Peterborough, PE7 3RH
Tel: 01733 241042
Email: stiltonpc@yahoo.co.uk

PLAYING FIELD CLOSED

Under the Health and Safety act 1974 the playing field will close at 6am on Tuesday 5th August 2014 until August 2015 to enable essential maintenance work to be undertaken to improve the playing field surface.

By Order of the Parish Council
Mary Croll, Clerk to Stilton Parish Council
The Christmas season usually brings out the villains, preying on the unsuspecting, so you need to be even more vigilant. Local police recently issued a fresh warning over fraudsters posing as police officers, following more calls.

Four Huntingdonshire women were the latest victims after being targeted in November.

They were all called by men claiming to be police officers from Hammersmith and Croydon police stations. One victim was told that a male in custody had given her address and another reported that she was asked to provide her credit card details, as it had been cloned.

After becoming suspicious a victim contacted the Metropolitan Police, who confirmed that the officer’s name and collar number given did not exist.

Happily, in all cases no money had been taken from the victims’ accounts.

Detective Inspector Jamie Stenton said: ‘We are working hard to find out who is committing these crimes, but we’re also keen to prevent any further people becoming victims.

‘I would urge everyone to speak to anyone who is vulnerable, relatives or neighbours and remind them not to trust anyone over the phone, without checking their legitimacy first.

‘You should also never give any bank cards, cash or valuables to anyone at your door, even if they say they are from your bank or the police.

‘The fraudsters can be very persuasive and often victims don’t realise they have been scammed.'
**WHAT TO DO**

If you do receive a suspicious call, always make sure you have ended the call before dialling 999. To report an incident in action always call 999. If it is after the event call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

**Keep Safe Over Xmas**

**ADVICE FROM CFRS**

It’s the time of year when we’re enjoying a tipple, cooking heaps of delicious food and decking the halls with boughs of holly. But in all the excitement, it’s easy to be careless or forgetful, so the fire service has some timely reminders to make sure your festive cheer doesn’t go up in smoke:

Kitchens are a fire hotspot, so take care while cooking festive fancies. Never leave cooking unattended and turn off appliances when not in use. Be careful when drinking alcohol while cooking or smoking.

Switch off and unplug fairy lights before you go to bed or leave the house. Make sure they confirm to the British Standard and never overload plug sockets. *(If you need to plug in multiple sets of lights, use a fused multi-way extension lead.)*

Finally, make sure you have a working smoke alarm which is correctly fitted and works. Test it! And *never* take the batteries out to power presents!

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 9994. Find Cambs Fire Service on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @cambsfrs.

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**Advertisers!**

You can place your orders through the Stilton village website!

Just go to www.stilton.org/village-life/scan/advertising-in-scan/

Lots of useful information to help you present your business effectively!

www.stilton.org