The Pavilion open day was an outstanding success, crowned by receiving the proceeds of Nisa’s carrier bag sales. Words and pictures on p14.
Grey Bin Days:
Mon 5th, 19th December; Tues 3rd January

Garden Bin Days:
STILTON Mon 12th, Wed 28th December; Mon 9th January

FOLKSWORTH Tues 13th, Thur 29th Dec; Tue 10th Jan

Recycling Bins:
STILTON & FOLKSWORTH Mon 12th, Wed 28th Dec, Mon 9th January

www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins
Diary of Events

If you have a one-off event fixed in the next few months please contact the editor - 241206 or olivekmain@gmail.com

December

9th-11th Stilton Church
   Christmas Tree Festival

18th Start of emergency night shelter;
   Carol singing and Christmas
   Dinner Norman Cross

21st Stilton Church Ladies Communion

2017

Jan 28th Twinning Quiz
Feb 18-20 Pavilion official opening
Mar 18th Twinning Race Night
May 1st Cheese-Rolling
Jun 23-25 Twinning weekend visit to France
Jul 8-12 Twinning visit from St Christol

MAKE SURE YOU TELL US!

We'll keep this list up to date with what people tell us about. So if you find your event double-parked with somebody else's it'll be because someone didn't bother to tell SCAN! And remember, telling SCAN also means we can list it on the village website.

The SCAN Diary

By the time you read this Stilton village groups will be in the process of moving from Stilton Memorial Hall to the Stilton Pavilion. By January, SCAN will be able to print an updated Diary, which will also include details of some new activities.

This is an opportunity to update the information. If anything has changed, or is wrong, please contact Olive Main (241206) or olivekmain@gmail.com

Stilton Memorial Hall Update

As regular users migrate to the Pavilion the Memorial Hall will be maintained at a regular temperature and will continue to be kept cleaned.

Stilton Parish Council decided at its November meeting to look to market the Hall as soon as possible. Awaited is a report from Huntingdonshire District Council planners who will make comments on possible uses for the Hall.
Christmas and New Year Opening Times

All the times and dates below were verified by SCAN in November, but there may be changes after we go to print. Where possible telephone numbers are given so that you can check.

CHRISTMAS POSTING DATES

(See www.postoffice.co.uk/christmas)

Last posting dates - inland:

- 2nd class post - 20 December
- 1st class post - 21 December

Special delivery (extra cost) up to 23 December with guaranteed delivery on Saturday 24 December.

Small Parcel Service costs £2.85 as long as it weighs no more than 2kg, and has dimensions up to 45cm long, 35cm wide and 16cm high.

Last posting dates - overseas:

- Australia / New Zealand - December 10
- Canada / USA - December 15
- Germany, Italy, Poland - December 14
- Spain - December 16
- France / Ireland - December 17

Stilton Post Office will be closed on all the Bank Holidays.

Keep this somewhere handy!

Shops

- Nisa Church St. Open Xmas Day 9am-5pm
- McColls 1 North St (246313) Open as usual except closed Christmas Day.
- Tesco Serpentine Green (0345 6779533) Closes at 4pm on Christmas Eve; Closed Christmas Day.
- Queensgate Free parking after 5:30pm on weeknights from 7 December.
  - Christmas Eve - closes at 5:30pm
  - Christmas Day - closed
  - Boxing Day - open 10:30am - 4:30pm
  - Individual shops have their own opening hours. Many, including John Lewis, open on Boxing Day from 10:30am - 4:30pm

Rail Services

- National Express Enquiries 03457 484950
  - Christmas Eve services finish earlier than usual.
  - No services Christmas Day or Boxing Day
  - Tuesday 27 December - services amended and will start later than usual.
  - December 31 - reduced services which will finish early evening
  - January 1&2 - reduced service
  - There are no planned engineering works over the holiday period on routes from Peterborough.

Bus Services

- Stagecoach Buses 207860 Services run down from 8:30pm on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve.
  - No buses on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year’s Day.
  - January 2 - Saturday service

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Local Services

DENTISTS
Most dentists will be closed from December 23 to December 28, and also closed from December 30 to 2 January. In an emergency ring the practice number for advice.

PHARMACIES
Tesco (0345 6779533) closed 25 & 26 December and 1 January

Halls Stilton - see special ad in this issue

Emergency Pharmacy
Millfield Pharmacy 387 Lincoln Road PE1 2PF (01733 312933) is open every day, 3pm-8pm on the Bank Holidays.

PETROL
BP Spar London Road Yaxley PE7 3NQ 01733 244233 Open as usual 24 hours.

COUNCIL SERVICES
Huntingdonshire District Council (01480 388388)
23 December 9am-4pm and closed until 28, 29 and 30 December. 9am-5pm
Then closed until Tuesday January 3 2017.

Cambs County Council (0345 045 5200)
Closed 23 December at 5pm.
Open 28-30 December and then closed until Tuesday January 3 2017.

Alconbury Recycling Centre (01480 414796) Closes 1pm Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Eve. Opening hours 9am-4pm.

Pubs

Stilton Cheese Inn (240546)
Christmas Eve: 11am - 3pm (food 12 noon - 2pm) and 6 - 11pm (food 6 - 9pm)
Christmas Day: 12noon - 2pm bar only
Boxing Day: Closed
New Year’s Eve: 12noon - 3pm (food 12noon-2pm) Evening: bookings only
New Year’s Day Closed
2nd January 12noon - 3pm (limited food menu 12noon - 2pm) Evening from 6pm (food 6 - 9pm)

The Tunnels (245433)
Christmas Day 12 - 2pm
New Year’s Eve open until 1:30am
Otherwise normal hours.

The Bell Inn, Village Bar (241066)
Christmas Eve 12noon - 11pm
Christmas Day 12noon - 2pm
Boxing Day 11am - 5pm
New Year’s Eve 12noon-3pm/7pm-1am
New Year’s Day 12noon - 5pm

The Talbot (240291)
Christmas Eve 12-12 (food 12noon-8pm)
Christmas Day 11:30am - 2pm no food
Boxing Day 11:30am - 11pm (food 11:30am - 4pm)
27 December 12noon - 11pm (food 12 - 2pm; 6 - 9pm)
New Year’s Eve 12noon - 1am (food 12 - 2pm; 5 - 9pm)
New Year’s Day 12 - 11pm (food 12-4pm)

Christmas trees and wreaths on sale as usual
CHRISTMAS OPENING

DECEMBER 2016

19th Mon 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
20th Tues 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
21st Wed 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
22nd Thurs 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
23rd Fri 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
24th Sat CLOSED ---- CHRISTMAS EVE
25th Sun CLOSED ---- CHRISTMAS DAY
26th Mon CLOSED ---- BOXING DAY
27th Tues CLOSED ---- PUBLIC HOLIDAY
28th Wed 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
29th Thurs 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
30th Fri 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm
31st Sat CLOSED

JANUARY 2017

1st Sun CLOSED ---- NEW YEARS DAY
2nd Mon CLOSED ---- PUBLIC HOLIDAY
3rd Tues 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm

Normal opening hours will resume from the 3rd January 2017

Wishing all our customers and patients
a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year
From All at Halls The Chemist

Please see other sign for pharmacies open during the festive
holiday, information also available in the local newspaper
and at www.nhs.uk

Millfield Pharmacy 387 Lincoln Road, Peterborough,
PE1 2PF Tel (01733) 312933 is open throughout the
festive season.

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Poppy wreaths were placed on the cemetery war graves. Here are young people from Stilton School and Sawtry College, with village veterans and Rev Richard Gibbs by the grave of Private D I Cullip.

Help the Foodbank

Thank you for your continued support to the Foodbank. At the moment we are urgently in need of:

- Tinned fruit
- Tinned vegetables
- Bottles of squash

Phone Pearl on (01733) 241114 if you want the items collected or you can take the items to the church.
Life, as John Lennon famously observed, is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans. So for many drawing a pension is what happens to old people and it comes as a shock when it's our turn!

The pension reforms in 2015 give greater freedom over how people can use their pension pots. Recognising that increasing numbers need help with understanding their pension options and potential pitfalls, Citizens Advice (CAB) are running Pension Wise, a very successful programme of free and impartial consultation.

And successful it certainly is; an Ipsos Mori survey of nearly 2,000 Pension Wise customers revealed that 85% said that they now have a better understanding of their pension options. Nearly 9 in 10 went on to take further action on their pension saving, such as:

- speaking to their pension provider (60%)
- deciding which option to take (57%)
- calculating their retirement income (56%).

More than 9 in 10 of those who used the service would recommend it to others.

A Pension Wise appointment may help you if you:

- Are approaching retirement or are 50 or over
- Have a defined contribution pension

Guidance appointments are also available on the telephone, delivered by the Pensions Advisory service. And you can get information and general guidance online at www.pensionwise.gov.uk.

To find out if Pension Wise is for you and how to book, drop into any Citizens Advice Bureau or phone 0800 138 8292.

Citizens Advice Peterborough delivers face to face Pension Wise sessions which are available to book now. The 45 minute appointments are tailored to the individual, taking into account the value of their pension and their plans for retirement.

Stilton Church
Coffee Morning

Dec 17th 2016
10:30am - noon

(Third Saturday in every month)

Take a break on Saturday morning; enjoy a chat over tea or coffee and cake; perhaps come away with a raffle prize!
Stilton Memorial Hall

Hiring Charges

- Hourly charge £6.50 / hour (minimum 2 hours)
- Children’s party £40
- Adult party/event £65
- Commercial £15 / hour (minimum 2 hours)

How to Book the Hall

To book the Hall, please contact the Booking Clerk, Sue Smith:
(01733) 240414 | oscarsue@live.co.uk | 07 522 601 459
or use the online booking form on www.stilton.org

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.

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, nor 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.
Stilton Culture

Christmas Reading

TAKE A LOOK AT \textit{THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GRANDPA}'

If you're looking for something unique - and with a Stilton connection - for the kids this Christmas, local writer Chris Heath has the answer!

Chris has scored a hit with Why Is The Sky Blue?, the first of his new series of books, The World According To Grandpa. The series is based on the mad, 100% made-up tales that all grandfathers come up with when they don't know the answer to kids' questions!

In its first week of sales, the book made it to #16 in Amazon's 'Kids Humour' category and, for one glorious hour, was the fastest-selling paperback on the whole of Amazon. Its releases in paperback and on Kindle were followed by an audiobook narrated by the legendary Richard Ridings; better known to children as Daddy Pig from Peppa Pig.

In the first story, a little boy call Stanley asks the question Why Is The Sky Blue? So his Grandpa spins an outrageous yarn, featuring kings, giant trumpets, beach balls and a herd of floating cows.

Chris, who grew up in Stilton, started his career in television, producing shows like The Big Breakfast, Johnny Vaughan Tonight and As Seen On TV. In recent years, he has created award-winning BBC shows like Holiday of my Lifetime with Len Goodman and The TV That Made Me with Brian Conley.

Why Is The Sky Blue is aimed at kids aged 4-8 and is available on Amazon now!

Merry Xmas!

The \textsc{Scan} production and distribution team wish all our readers a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2017.
PLAYGROUP’S SANTA FLOAT

Every year the Playgroup organise for Santa to tour the village spreading lots of festive cheer. It is great fun and raises essential funds for Playgroup. The children love seeing Santa waving from his sleigh with the Christmas songs playing.

We need lots of Santa's Little Helpers (Big and small - all children must be accompanied by an adult) to come along with Santa and help us to collect money.

We are touring the village on Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th December starting at 4pm

IF YOU CAN COME PLEASE MEET US AT 3:50 PM
(SAT - AT 53 HIGH ST (GOLF COURSE) / SUN - OUTSIDE McCOLLS NORTH ST)

You could help us by just doing your street when Santa comes.

(And remember to wrap up warm, bring along a torch and a Santa hat or anything festive if you have it)

If you would like to join us could you let Playgroup know on 01733 247682; that would help us organise buckets etc.

Playgroup are also putting on a Christmas Fete in Playgroup on the 16th Dec 2-4pm

There will be games & prizes
Craft Stalls    -    a Raffle
And lots of Christmas fun!
Taking a Sneaky Peek
STILTON TURNS OUT TO SEE OUR FAB NEW PAVILION

A big WELL DONE! to both the Pavilion project team and the village groups who gave up their Saturday to welcome residents for a first look inside this magnificent new community asset.

And what a turn-out! SCAN got in early before it got too crowded but almost had to fight a way out as the building quickly filled with a steady stream of people coming in after us. Those who did come will have gone home deeply impressed by how well thought-out and spacious the whole facility is. So for those who couldn’t make it, we took a few photos to show what you missed.

Perhaps the most impressive feature is the spacious - nay, enormous - main hall. Light and airy and ideal for a wide variety of activities. The carpet bowls and table tennis clubs have never had so much room!

Not everyone will need such a big space, of course, and big events may need a second room for supporting activities, so an adjacent smaller room, about half the size of the Memorial Hall meets this need.

But what everyone will need is a kitchen, and this too is splendidly well-equipped, with serving hatches both to the interior and onto a patio area to support outdoor events.
Our village sportsmen now have a first-class facility to which they can invite competing teams with pride. Excellent changing room and showering facilities are now being completed to a high standard. Essential infrastructure includes ample storage space for furniture and equipment, full disabled-access provision and a Manager’s office with digital networking and internet access.

To top the day off, Steve Walters, NISA Regional Manager, presented Mark Angus, the Pavilion Project Group Chairman, with a cheque for £4,589 raised from the sales in Stilton of 91,780 carrier bags! Total recent donations now stand at £6,366.

Watch for news of the official opening!

Clockwise from left: part of the huge main hall; Mark Angus receiving the proceeds of Nisa’s carrier bag sales; the well-equipped kitchen, serving both indoor and outdoor events.
Pupils in Key Stage 2 visited the National Space Centre in Leicester to consolidate their learning.

Pupils were able to explore the solar system, look back through history and hear from astronauts as well as from people who watched the first moon landing. The day finished off with a presentation in the planetarium described as ‘awesome’ by many children!

It really was a fabulous place to visit!

Thank You!

We have been holding Parent Forums asking for parent feedback on things such as, Parent Partnership, our Anti-Bullying week and our school website.

Thank you to those who attended. If you have any further feedback to offer please contact the school.

Book Fayre

We have had a Book Fayre in school which proved very popular! With help from parents and carers we managed to sell over £650 worth of books! This meant that we were able to choose £50 of books for EACH class!

Thank you to our Friends of Stilton School who held a cake sale and have donated this money towards our library project.

The children from our Art club will be decorating a tree for the church Christmas Tree Festival.

Upcoming Events
16th November

Applications open for September 2017 intake into our Reception Class

Thursday 15th December

We are inviting the members of Stilton Over 60’s to our carol singing afternoon. The children are busy practising to ensure it’s a memorable afternoon!
Quiz
Disco & Buffet
For only £15pp!!

Let's all get together this Christmas and show our support for Stilton Utd. Football Club!

27th December 2016
(Bank Holiday Tuesday)
7pm - Late

Angel Spice
Stilton

(Teams: 8 persons max)
For Ticket information please email Stiltonutd.fundraising@yahoo.com
or call Alison Hardy: 0787 205 25 23

Don't forget those party shoes!
With lots to do and some unhelpful weather, it's not been possible to get the Fox open in time for Christmas. The new owners are very disappointed and apologise for any inconvenience.

**FOLKSWORTH VILLAGE HALL**

The Folksworth Village Hall management committee has started a programme of improvements to the hall. We are in the process of replacing fencing and overgrown dead hedging around the boundary of the village hall. This will help users and visitors, both on foot and in cars, to have better visibility and safer access when entering and exiting the car park entrance from the road. We will also be placing fencing alongside the existing path, to increase hall security and provide a small additional outside space for user groups.

Over the next two years the management committee will be embarking on several projects to modernise and enhance the hall for all the community and we will report on this regularly in **SCAN**.

On Saturday 3 December Folksworth Village Hall is running its regular pub night (probably the last before the opening of the new Fox pub!). Doors open at 6:30 pm until 11:00 pm with a 'happy hour' until 7:30 pm. There will be cask ales from a local brewery, wine, soft drinks and food available. All proceeds will go towards improvements to the village hall. For more information, please visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/FolksworthVillageHall/. For hall bookings please contact Mrs Joy Blythe on 01733 241938.

**FOLKSWORTH TODDLER GROUP**

Folksworth Toddler group is now being run by a group of village mums. We'd love to see more babies and toddlers at the group and would encourage local mums, grandparents or carers to come and join us. It's an ideal opportunity to come and meet new people, make friends and have some fun.

We have an outside space that's useable all year (as long as it's dry!) and plenty of toys to cater for all ages for both inside and outside play. We will also be arranging a different craft activity each week for the more creative amongst you; everything will be set up for you to enjoy with your child.

Tea and coffee is provided for the adults and a healthy snack and drink for the children. The group is really friendly and welcoming. We'd love to see more mums from the village and surrounding area enjoying what we have to offer.
The group meet on Thursday mornings (term time only) 10.00-11.30 and costs £2 for the first child and 50p for a second child. We’re on Facebook under Folksworth Baby and Toddler group. Take a look to find out what we’ve been up to and have planned over the next few weeks. Please feel free to contact us through Facebook as well if you have any questions or call 07542172075.

FOLKSWORTH PRE-SCHOOL

Folksworth Pre-school are very busy this term. We are revising shape names; matching pictures for language development; looking at rhyming; creating shape pictures; studying the difference between heavy and light; and a whole lot more.

We’ve recently decided to introduce a new uniform in the hope that it saves our clothes from all of the fun, messy stuff we get up to at preschool. Fun is important after all! The uniform can be purchased online from Tesco.

We have several important dates coming up. On 24th November 10-11:30am, we have a free taster session running during our toddler group. We all feel we’re being selfish keeping our wonderful pre-school to ourselves and thought it was time we shared it with you all. Everyone is welcome to come along, even if it’s only for tea and cake.

On 10th December it’s our annual Christmas Santa Float, starting at 3pm from the church. Once again there will be a fully licensed bar and BBQ in the Village Hall. The big man himself - and of course his very special reindeer - will be there too. New to this year will be a super huge raffle with the chance of winning £500 just in time for Christmas.

Hope to see you all soon. For all enquiries please contact Jade Smith on 0754 217 2075.

News from St. Helen’s

This year our Harvest Service was designed for all ages. The mix of old and new worship styles was well received as we thanked God for His continued goodness.

Those who came to our Harvest Supper were treated to an excellent choice of hot meals, courtesy of our Head Chef, Sara Collard assisted by Hege Møller-Green and her loyal band of helpers. Some mouth-watering desserts then followed. A quiz got the old grey matter going again and everyone left feeling very satisfied. The PCC would like to thank all who supported us; to Hege for organising; to Sara and helpers for all their hard work to make this possible; and, to those who very generously donated desserts.

All our services in December start at 9:45am with the exception of the Christmas Eve Crib Service at 3pm.

4th - 9:45am - Family Folkus
11th - 9:45am - All Age Worship
18th - 9:45am - Morning Praise
24th - 3pm - Christmas Eve Crib Service
25th - 9:45am - Holy Communion

Contributors!

We want your material for Folklore!

Email to Sarah Abbott at abbotsarahj@hotmail.co.uk or call her on 247475

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
The Parish Council recently decided on its budget for 2017-18 and have decided to keep the Precept the same as for the current year. The budget includes some long-term earmarked funds to provide for the eventual replacement of the play equipment. In addition, Â2000 has been budgeted to add to the Â2000 in this year's budget to provide a new piece of play equipment on the field. If you have any ideas about what this should be please let me know or post on the community Facebook page.

The picnic benches have been installed on the playing field and are already very well used. Please remember to put any rubbish in the bins provided. An additional bin will be placed by the benches.

You may have noticed that dog notices have gone up in various areas within the Parish. These have been placed by District Council's Pest Officer where the law applies. These Dog Fouling laws will apply to any path or verge adjacent to a road in a 40mph or less area. The maximum penalty for non-compliance is Â1000. If someone is served with a fixed penalty notice the fine is Â75, or Â50 if paid within 10 days. Enforcement is carried out by HDC's Pest Officer where a complaint is received with an identified perpetrator.

We continue to have a problem with hedges that have overgrown footpaths and roads. The weather we have had has resulted in exceptional growth. It is the responsibility of residents to ensure their hedges and trees do not grow out any further than their boundary lines. This is an issue in various places in Folksworth where the footpaths are narrow and cars are parked along the roadside, resulting in residents pushing buggies and on mobility scooters being unable to pass. The County Council has the authority to cut hedges and trees overhanging footpaths and roads and make a charge to the householder for this so please check your own boundaries and make sure they comply.

The area behind the Pond in Elm Road is to be developed as a Pocket Park/Community Orchard. The project is likely to commence in the Spring of 2017. If anyone wishes to be involved with the project, please let me know.

The defibrillator will be installed outside the Village Hall, hopefully before the end of the year. We are hoping to organise some training sessions and will give more information on these in later issues.

Council understands that there have been some delays in the refurbishment of The Fox and that the new opening date is likely to be Spring 2017.

The Folksworth 15 Road Race will take place on Sunday January 22nd, 2017. Road closure notices will be displayed. In addition, a 'get your legs going after Christmas' run is organised for Tuesday, December 27th, 2016.
COULD YOU BE A COUNCILLOR?

We still have a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you feel you would like to get involved in the work of the Council or would just like to know more, please contact me.

Please get in touch with me if you require any information at all about the Parish Council. I am happy to help in any way I can. Parish Council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month (except August) and Agendas and Minutes are placed on the noticeboards and on the website.

Jackie Stanbridge
Clerk to the Council/RFO

November’s puzzle solution
Folksworth Village

Pub Night

Folksworth Village Hall
Saturday 3 December 6:30 to 11:00 pm
Cask Ales from local brewery, wines & soft drinks
Food available

HAPPY HOUR
6:30 to 7:30pm

Proceeds to Folksworth Village Hall i Registered Charity 2700663

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

Mobile Library

Thur 15 Dec
Folksworth 10:45 - 11am Elm Road
Stilton 3:10 - 4pm Outside The Talbot
Route M24
Get Into the Festive Spirit!
CHRISTMAS AT YAXLEY LIBRARY

ENGAGE IN THE AFTERNOON FOR ADULTS

Come along and join in with a Christmas Quiz on Wednesday 14th December at 2:00pm. There is a prize for the lucky winner!

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

All Cambridgeshire Libraries will close at 1:30pm on the 24th December and re-open on 3rd January. Don’t forget to visit the Library and stock up with exciting books to read over the holidays!

CHILDREN’S EVENTS

Rhymetimes are held every Friday morning (term-time only) from 10:30 - 11:00am for children aged 0 - 18 months. Why not come along and meet new mums whilst singing old and new rhymes with your child.

Book and Biscuit, for school age children, is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 3:30 - 4:15pm. Listen to stories and make new friends.

Storytimes, for children aged 18 months - 5 years of age, are held every two weeks at 10:30 - 11:00. Come and join in the fun at our next session on Tuesday 13th December.

GOING DIGITAL?

Do you need help with Computer Basics or researching Family History? Our Computer Buddy can offer FREE basic help to beginners and our Family History Volunteer can help you get starting with tracing your ancestors. Please ask a member of library staff for more information.

HAVE A GOOD ONE!

All the Staff at Yaxley Library would like to wish all our customers and very happy Christmas.

To find out more about all the Adult and Children’s Events that Yaxley Library can offer please call in and speak to a member of staff, visit Cambridgeshire Libraries, www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library, www.cambs.net.gov.uk, or take a look at Cambridgeshire Libraries’ Facebook Page.
December in the Garden

DON’T NEGLECT THE ESSENTIALS!

It all depends on the weather, but also on your family’s attitude. Are you able to put on hold the Christmas preparations on those days when you should be out in the garden?

Some precautions are essential, especially now the cold and blustery weather is setting in. So check the following:

- Are outside taps insulated?
- Are any greenhouse heaters working?
- Have you brushed leaves off the lawns?
- Are any ties secure to prevent plants or saplings rocking in the wind?

It’s also the time to prune apples and pears. There is a good video on the RHS website which explains how to ensure a good crop next year.

Indoor plants need less water and feed, but they do still need light, so move them to the sunniest window sill you have.

Stilton Gardening and Natural History Group

Tuesday Dec 20th 7:30pm
Church Meeting Room

Christmas Party

All members and friends are invited to bring festive food and join in the fun.

Raffle prizes also needed
Members £1, Visitors £2

Twinning Diary Dates

28 Jan 2017 Quiz Night - see advert in this issue
18 March 2017 Race Night - see advert in this issue
23-25 June 2017 Weekend visit to Lille - details next month!
8-12 July 2017 20th Anniversary Celebrations - details next month!

If you are interested in any Twinning 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.
Stilton and District Twinning Association

Quiz Night

Saturday 28\textsuperscript{th} January

Stilton Pavilion

7:15 for 7:30 start

For teams of 6-8 people

Ticket price £7.50 per head

includes Ploughman’s Supper & dessert

(Glasses provided, bring your own drink)

Tickets available from

Chris 241376 or Audrey & Paul 241739

It’s a great night!

See the new Stilton Pavilion!

We look forward to seeing you.
St Mary Magdalene Church, Stilton

Christmas Tree Festival

10th to 11th December
Open Sat 10am to 6pm - Sun 12 to 4pm

Services

Saturday
Join us for Carols round the piano, between 7.00 pm & 9.00 pm, mince pies and a glass of wine.

Sunday 11.00 am to 12.00
Christingle
In aid of the Children’s Society
All welcome

Visit Stilton Church during the Festival
- It will be decorated with Christmas Trees and Flowers as part of the festive season
- Listen to a programme of music and words throughout the days
- A Bazaar with a flock of sheep for sale, cushions and craft items
- A home made produce stall with Jams, chutney pickles etc.
- A Café for drinks, home made cakes and cream teas.

We still have room for a few more trees!
As an individual, or an organisation, you can provide a decorated tree and bring it to the Church on the 8th; you’ll get it back on the 14th

Please contact Peter Mitchell on 244666, or Pat Maltman on 242229
A Concert for Christmas

By the City of Peterborough Concert Band

4th December 2016, starting at 3pm

St Andrew's Church, Ledbury Road, Peterborough PE3 9RF

As it is in December, everyone's thoughts will be turning to the Christmas season, and we hope to capture that mood in our concert. Please come and support us at this afternoon concert and help us raise worthwhile donations for our chosen charities.

The City of Peterborough Concert Band is a lively and dynamic group of local musicians who perform regularly in the Peterborough area. Formed in 1987, the band is made up of people of all ages, as young as 16 and as old as 84.

Tickets £5

No concessions; accompanied under-16s free

Tickets will be obtainable in advance from Hilary Lewis,
Telephone: 01733 265877    email: petconcertband@gmail.com

They will also be on sale on the door, and near the concert date at Peterborough Visitor Information Centre,
9 Bridge Street, Peterborough PE1 1HJ, telephone 01733 453336.
Workers' Educational Association, Yaxley Branch
Presents

Great Gardens
- Famous Gardeners

A nine-week course beginning on Tuesday, 12th January at The British Legion Social Clubroom, Broadway, Yaxley, starting at 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Course Tutor Andrew Sankey will lead us into the lives of exceptional gardeners who set about creating some of England's greatest gardens. The gardens cover stunning formal layouts, beautiful landscapes and wonderful gardens of rooms.

The course fee is £47.25
For further details contact D. Cleverley (01733) 240010

Friends of Norman Cross

December 18 6:30pm
Carols at the Eagle Monument
followed by Christmas Dinner at the Premier Inn.

Contact: fonc@friendsofnormancross.org.uk
Norman Cross Gallery 01733 245189
www.Friendsofnormancross.org.uk

Christmas Quiz answers

1. USS Missouri
2. Lego
3. 2000
4. George Orwell
5. Antarctica
6. The barometer
7. Theseus
8. Descartes
9. 1961
10. 742
11. Vienna
12. Ceylon
13. Aaron
14. Mary Quant
15. Edna
16. India & Ceylon
17. The heat of chili peppers
18. Borodino
19. Houses of Parliament
20. The three witches in Macbeth
Stilton & District Twinning Association

Race Night

Saturday 18th March 2017
Stilton Pavilion

Doors open 7:00pm / First race 7:30pm

Tickets £7.50
(Includes Ploughman's Supper & Homemade Dessert)
Bring Your Own Drink

Contact: Ian & Hazel Parmenter 243056
Chris Walford 241376
Paul & Audrey Springford 241739

A fun night for everybody!
Make a difference
VOLUNTEER TODAY
Join our fight against heart disease

Roz, customer service volunteer
bhf.org.uk

Your local store:
BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION HUNTINGDON F&E
135 High Street
Huntingdon
PE29 3NF
01480 802530
Ask for Jade or Matt!
Every Thursday - 9.30am to 12.00pm
Every Saturday - 8.30am to 11.30am

Krazy Katz Funhouse

Sociable indoor soft play session for parents and under 6’s.

There will be a variety of soft play equipment, bouncy castle and a ball pool for children to play in a safe environment.

£1 per child

Tea, coffee and a variety of treats also available.

Green End Road, Sawtry PE28 5UY
Tel: 01480 387800
www.oneleisure.net

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Have you checked when your concessionary BUS PASS runs out?

It’s up to you to check when it does and get it renewed.

If you don’t and your pass has expired you will be refused free travel. Passes can be renewed up to 6 weeks before their expiry date.

Just go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/concessionary

If you can’t get your renewal done online then call the number printed on the back of your pass.
Don’t Waste the Leftovers
LEAST OF ALL THE STILTON!

We all find our eyes bigger than our stomachs when shopping for Christmas food - particularly when there’s yummy Stilton cheese on special offer. So in the interests of reducing food waste we direct you to the Guardian’s website which has 13 recipes for using up the surplus Stilton. Copyright prevents us reproducing them here but they are interesting, different recipes. Just Google Guardian Stilton Cheese. Meanwhile, here’s an old favourite:

STILTON STICKS
Quick and easy! Roll out one packet of puff pastry. Place 4oz grated/crumbled Stilton cheese on top and dust with paprika. Put a second sheet of rolled puff pastry on top and press together with rolling pin. Cut into strips about ¼ inch thick; twist three times and press the ends together.

Cook at 225°C for about 10 minutes.

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 be CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE 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

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Well there’s no denying Christmas now; the season is upon us! So let’s talk about it not actually getting UPON us, in terms of leaving its mark on our waistlines, writes Sally Pinnegar.

In the run up to Dec 25 there are often parties, drinks with friends, Christmas work do’s, more tempting stuff at the supermarket and enticings you on your TV screens (best not to watch telly - go for a walk instead!) and daily Christmas nibbles in the workplace and elsewhere. Combine that with the dark nights and hunkering down for the season and you can soon end up gaining lots of poundage. People can easily put on up to a stone over the festive period as it’s such an extended season now. Easy to put on, but a bore to take off; that would be two months to get back to where you started. A lot of people never lose all they gain, and so year-on-year become increasingly overweight.

It might be useful to get the low-down on how much energy certain Christmas foods and drinks contain so you can be forewarned. To make this easier to understand I’m going to equate everything to the energy in a doughnut; doughnuts are something we all know are not the wisest choice if you want to stay healthy.

To give this some context, one doughnut is roughly 13-15% of our daily energy needs.

Each of the following equates to eating one doughnut:
- One mince pie
- A glass of wine/mulled wine/Prosecco
- One bottle of beer
- A quarter of a tube of Pringles
- A small piece of Christmas cake
- Two small glasses of Baileys
- Six Quality Street or Roses
- Two match-box size pieces of Stilton cheese
- Four small unidentifiable deep-fried filo party nibbles
- Five tablespoons of dip
- A piece of Yule log
- Four dessert spoons of Christmas pudding
- Two gingerbread men
- 3-4 pigs in blankets

If you ate all the above - which isn’t difficult at Christmas - it would be the equivalent of over two days’ food requirements, without the regular three meals that go alongside.

You can still have the odd Christmas nibble here and there; just try to exercise a bit more and reduce portion sizes of meals if you accidentally over-indulge.

But the very best thing is just to enjoy time with friends and family without feeling the need to eat loads. Long walks in wintry landscapes help too, as does volunteering to clean out the local reindeer each day!
**Christmas Survival Offer!**

As a special Christmas offer, and to help get you on a healthy track, Sally Pinnegar is offering a free body composition analysis to any recipient of SCAN (just bring your copy), at the fitnaturally office in Stilton.

To book an appointment, email hello@fitnaturally.co.uk.

A happy, healthy Christmas and New Year from fitnaturally.

Sally

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**Yaxley Singers**

**Words & Music for Christmas**

Yaxley Methodist Church, Main Street Yaxley at 7:30pm.

Tickets £5 adults, £2 children from Peterborough 241042 or on the door

- include light refreshments and lucky programmes!

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**Stilton Stumblers**

**Winter Itinerary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Dec</td>
<td>Yaxley Lode</td>
<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Dinner!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan</td>
<td>Mystery Tour!</td>
<td>15 Jan</td>
<td>Hampton Lakes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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, just Google Stilton Stumblers or call Shirley on (01733) 246209 - or just turn up on the day with your boots on!
SMS Text Messages / email Reminders

From the 1st September 2016 Yaxley Group Practice started routinely sending SMS text messages and email reminders about upcoming appointments, clinics dates and other health-related information, to all patients who have supplied a mobile number and/or an email address. It is a quick, efficient and environmentally friendly way for us to contact patients regarding important reminders/messages.

Therefore it is very important that we have your up-to-date contact information. You can update your contact details via update your records on our website; in person; or by telephone on 01733 240478 option 2. (We would appreciate if you could call from 10am onwards to avoid a prolonged wait.)

Please be assured that we will not share your contact details or personal information with any third parties.

If you do not wish to be contacted by SMS/email please let us know and we will update your record accordingly. Again, this can be done online, by telephone or in person. Remember you can change your mind regarding this any time and as many times as you like.

Splenectomy/Low Functioning Spleens

We are currently carrying out a search into patients who have had a splenectomy (removal of the spleen) or have low-functioning spleens. If you are living without a spleen it is important that you:

1. Receive information and advice about infection risk.

2. Receive up-to-date vaccinations, as there has been new guidance on this from public health.

3. Take low-dose antibiotics for the rest of your life to prevent bacterial infections.

We are asking that all patients who do not have a spleen, or have one which does not work correctly, to get in touch with Practice Nurse Angela, so we can make sure that you have had the appropriate treatment.

Dr. Madhuri Gupta

Diary Dates
CARER SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

The next meetings of the Carer Support Group will be on Wednesdays 7th December 2016 and 4th January 2017, between 2pm-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.
Thank You

During both open Flu Clinics on Saturdays 1st and 15th October, members of the Patients Association sold raffle tickets to raise valuable funds for the surgery.

All prizes were generously donated by local residents and businesses. We would like to say a huge ‘thank you’ to all of them for their support and generosity; it is greatly appreciated. The draw was made on the 20th October and the lucky winners were notified. A list of the winners is on our Patients Association notice board. We want to thank everyone who so generously bought raffle tickets and helped us to raise a superb £813.95.

Taking Some Time Out...

I remember when I was 10 years old. A teacher at my school said that when we were older we would find time would feel as though it was going quickly, as opposed to how it would appear to almost stand still at our age. Those words of wisdom certainly seem to be true as I am fast approaching the age of 60.

Luckily, in my practice we have a system of sabbaticals and I will shortly be stepping out of the busy world of general practice for three months and enjoying a slower pace of life for a while. I will be returning to work mid-February with the batteries recharged and, despite rumours circulating, I have no intention of retiring any time soon!

Dr Richard Withers

Keep Your Head
A NEW WEBSITE

A new website has been launched to help children and young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough tackle mental health issues.

www.keep-your-head.com

Keep Your Head - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Mental Health Support

This website is a central point for information on children and young people’s mental health and well-being in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This site signposts you to important online information and local services on mental health and well-being for young people. It’s for children, young people, parents, carers, teachers and other professionals.

Christmas Closures

We will be closed on

Sunday 25th December 2016
Monday 26th December 2016
Tuesday 27th December 2016
Monday 2nd January 2017

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.
Flu Vaccinations

Patients within the following at-risk categories are entitled to the vaccination. If you’ve not had yours yet please call our Reception on 01487 830340 to make an appointment with one of our Practice Nurses:

Patients falling within the following at-risk categories will be 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.

GP Team

Dr Williams will be retiring from General Practice on Thursday 22nd December after spending more years at the practice than he probably prefers to remember! I know that he will be missed by all of us here at the surgery and his patients alike.

I am pleased to be able to announce that Dr Krystyna Jarosz will be joining the practice as of 1st December 2016 and will be working on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

GP Advice Line

Please remember to make use of our doctors’ advice line which provides patients with direct telephone access to a doctor 8:00-8:25am every weekday morning by calling us on 01487 831587. The advice line is intended for any medical problems or queries you may have which are suitable to be dealt with without the need for a face-to-face consultation.

Self Care

Self care is about looking after yourself in a healthy way. It can be anything from brushing your teeth, doing some exercise, managing common conditions (like headaches, colds and flu) or living with a long-term health problem such as asthma or diabetes.

Please visit our own website - www.wellside.org.uk - or the NHS website - www.nhs.uk/livewell - to learn more about how you can help look after yourself.
Wasted Appointments

We continue to experience a significant number of wasted appointments each month. During October our clinical team saw 3661 patients, but we could have seen even more if people had cancelled appointments which were not attended.

We strive to provide our patients with good access to appointments and services, but wasted clinician time means longer waiting times for other patients. Please do let us know if you have booked an appointment but subsequently find, for whatever reason, that you are unable to attend as your appointment can then be offered to another patient in need of our care.

Please remember that requests for repeat prescriptions take two working days. During this period please make sure you submit your repeat requests in plenty of time to allow for this.

We 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

Fri 23rd December - Open as usual
Sat 24th December - Christmas Eve - Closed
Sun 25th December - Christmas Day - Closed
Mon 26th December - Boxing Day - Closed
Tue 27th December - Bank Holiday - Closed
Wed 28th December - Open as usual
Thur 29th December - Open as usual
Fri 30th December - Open as usual
Sat 31st December - New Year's Eve - Closed
Sun 1st January - New Year's Day - Closed
Mon 2nd January - Bank Holiday - Closed
Tue 3rd January - Open as usual

If you require urgent GP care whilst the practice is closed you should call 111.
Cambs Police remind readers that the long winter nights lead to a rise in burglaries, especially during the run up to Christmas, so it’s time to review your home security.

Four simple steps to reduce the risk of being a victim of burglary:

1. Leave a light on inside your home when you are absent, preferably using a low-energy bulb.
2. Use a timer switch to activate lights as it gets dark. Alternating the times they are on to give the impression of someone being at home.
3. Make sure your front door is well lit using dusk to dawn lighting that automatically comes on as it gets dark.
4. Make sure you keep your doors and windows locked at all times.

In addition, police recommend you to take these security tips:

1. Register valuable items with a serial number at www.immobilise.com and add a photograph.
2. Do not leave your car keys, handbags, wallets or mobile phones near doors, letterboxes or windows.
3. Never leave keys in the door if you have a cat flap or letterbox.
4. Keep your valuables out of sight. Burglars will be looking through windows for items of value, such as Christmas presents.
5. Install a visible burglar alarm with a box on the front and rear of your property.
6. Keep gates and sheds locked.
7. Store your wheelie bins behind secure side gates to prevent them being used as climbing aids.
8. Increase the height of your back or side fencing by adding diamond-style trellis topping, which is difficult to climb.
9. Plant spiky plants in vulnerable areas. (Pyracantha is pretty good!)
10. Think about getting a driveway alarm this is a cheap and effective deterrent which can be switched on at night when you go to bed to protect against anyone entering your drive or garden.
11. If you are going away on holiday, do not post your holiday plans or movements on social-networking sites.
12. Subscribe to your local Neighbourhood Watch.
Fancy a Real Fire This Xmas?
EASY - JUST LEAVE THE FRYING PAN UNATTENDED

It's the time of year when we're enjoying a tipple with friends, decking the halls and slaving in a hot kitchen. So Cambs Fire & Rescue sends this timely message to make sure your Christmas 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.

- 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 which is correctly fitted and works. And NEVER take the batteries out to power presents!

For the latest news, incidents and safety advice, or to contact CFRS, log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk. Sign up to email alerts and find them on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.

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Linking Hands

Ladies Group

An informal group open to all ladies who would like to explore the Bible and share how it influences our lives today.

Following the 'Lifebuilder' series, we are excited to be starting a new theme in September: 'Women and Identity'.

We meet in Stilton Church Meeting Room from 8:45am and aim to start around 9:00am, finishing around 10:30am.

Ladies welcome (pre-schoolers too) from all the villages and surrounding areas.

Why not come along and join us?