Surviving Lock-Down

Keeping a perspective Encouraging views from residents

Shooting the enemy
Clark Gable’s wartime movie making at Polebrook

Punch-up!
The story of an historic bare-knuckle match in Stilton

Tianda Woolner and husband Paul were among many making the best of lock-down to celebrate VE Day 75 in style. Story and pictures inside. Even more pictures on www.stiltonparishcouncil.org/community/ve-day-75

Incorporating folklore, for readers in Folksworth and the surrounding villages
Grey Bin Days:
Mon 1st, 15th, 29th June; 13th July

Garden Bin Days:
Fri 12th, 26th June; 10th July

Recycling Bins:
Mon 8th, 22nd June; 6th July

Please put your bins out after 6pm on the day before collection

Recycling depots are open again!

www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins
It may just be the unseasonably warm spring weather, but there’s a palpable sense of optimism and community spirit in the air. On page 8 Tianda Woolner reports on the outstanding success of Stilton’s Facebook Covid-19 support group. It’s even helping people far away to reach out to check on relatives in Stilton.

We feared that the cancelled VE Day street party event would leave a hole in our lives, but - to no great surprise - villagers rose to the occasion with lots of mini street parties outside their homes. Julie Gillies (The Pavilion Manager) and Revd Richard Gibbs describe their experiences of the warmth and enthusiasm of the many people they encountered entering into the spirit of wartime celebration. Well done everybody!

We have been particularly impressed by the can-do attitude of many. At The Talbot, John has now extended his take-away delivery service to cover Folksworth, for its residents with pub grub withdrawal symptoms. So take full advantage! We’re also very fortunate to have an excellent village store and pharmacy on our doorstep, but over in Holme - which lost its village store some years ago - the Admiral Wells has stepped into the breach with a Community Shop service, which has been doing good trade. Remember: fortune smiles on the positive-minded!

LOCAL HISTORY

With no local events to promote, we’ve been able to find space for some interesting local history, so thanks to Stephen Abbott and Mr Roberto Nigro for this month’s excellent material. We’re always keen to feature local history in these pages, so if you can share some interesting stories, bring ‘em on!

HIT BACK AT SCAMMERS

On a more serious topic, there seems to have been an upsurge in criminals looking to use the coronavirus pandemic as a way to scam people. Happily, in conjunction with the City of London Police, the UK's cyber security agency has launched a service which enables people to report suspicious emails to them.

You simply forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk and the NCSC's automated program will immediately test the validity of any linked site. So add this address to your email Contacts NOW.

You won’t get a reply, but your submission is added to a growing intelligence resource which can be used to tackle these scams at their source. Find out more at this website: www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/report-suspicious-emails
A Special Bank Holiday
VE DAY 75 - 8TH MAY 2020

Despite plans having to be changed, this didn't stop Stilton residents from enjoying a VE Day Bank Holiday of nostalgia, remembrance and community spirit, writes Julie Gillies.

At 11:00am, a single bell tolled from Stilton Church marking a two-minute silence to remember the fallen. A wreath was laid at the new war memorial in honour of them.

We would like to thank Tianda Woolner for initiating the original plans for Stilton's VE 75 day. Under glorious spring weather, the theme was carried throughout the village, particularly the tea parties and memorabilia. Bunting and balloons adorned homes and businesses while 1940's outfits adorned many of us. Dame Vera Lynn's 'We'll Meet Again' wafted through the air alongside the sound of laughter, singing and dancing. Socialising in front gardens was the new 'street party' with some celebrations extending into the late evening.

VE Day 75 was not only a special commemoration of the fallen, it also boosted the nation's well-being at a difficult time. Our wartime heroes would certainly have been proud to see that community spirit hasn't faded. The strength of emotions and optimism gained from a fantastic day of remembrance are summed up by the many messages received.

"We spent the day learning about 'Tommy's in the Window' from a Home Learning Hub and about the Royal British Legion Industries’ work selling statues and window stickers. The Soldier window stickers made a great early Father's Day gift - and for grandfather too, who had served for our country. Will and Grace made bunting, we all joined in with the two minutes silence and had a fun feast outside with neighbours in Worthington Close. We didn't have Spam but supported our local businesses with Kura Kura Street food (for the grown-ups) and Talbot take-away (for the kids)."

The Shellard Family

"Ermine Crescent would like to thank Lorna and Steve Ambler for providing us with a VE Day celebration full of music and dance - it was a great way to commemorate."

Mary Skelhon

"It was so lovely to see everyone out enjoying themselves in the current situation."

Linda Angus Willow Close
We had a wonderful VE celebration down Maple Drive. Everyone had tea and cakes on their own front lawns and spent time catching up with each other, enjoying the simple things. The vicar even joined us for a G&T. I think it was what we all needed, celebrating with neighbours aged 6-80. It was nice to see my girls catching up with neighbours about GCSEs, university, baking, missing friends etc. Time was made for everyone. Lots of reminiscing too."
Donna Guest

Mill Road residents shared a very special day. We decorated our houses in bunting, shared afternoon tea and were entertained by the talented Tim and Lou, who dressed in 40’s military costumes and sang and played 40’s music on the green. We paid our respects when the Last Post was played on the saxophone.

“In times when we are fighting a very different war, for a few hours we remembered those who were lost and those who survived World War II to make our world wonderful. May 8th 2020 was a day when Community Spirit was at its finest on the green in Mill Road."  
Janice Walsh

Friday 8th May was a celebration. This acts as a beacon of hope, that we too will fight to see the end."  
Lauren Gardner, Worthington Close

Events like this are what makes Stilton a great place to live.”
Net Benefits
THE AMAZING SUCCESS OF OUR COVID-19 SUPPORT NETWORK

Last night I dreamt that we had a vaccine for Covid-19 and we were going to a party on 12th June to celebrate, writes Tianda Woolner. In my dream I didn’t know how to react; I worried about how we were going to act in public without the two-metre dance we engage in at every face-to-face encounter.

That set me thinking about how quickly we have adapted to our new lives in lock-down. I remember the urgency everyone felt to protect themselves and their families, and how difficult it was to stay at home in a village with a shop, a chemist and one takeaway service. We saw on the news how panic buying reduced a nurse to tears when she got off her shift to find the shelves empty in her local supermarket, and we saw acts of kindness when strangers paid for key workers’ shopping and petrol.

In our village, Alyson Low had set up a Facebook page on 16th March as part of a national network, which I quickly joined and started to help manage. It’s called Stilton Covid-19 community support and can be searched for on all platforms and accessed from all over the world. Within days it had 70+ members all offering to shop, telephone, collect prescriptions, or walk the dog for residents of Stilton who were at higher risk and had been asked to go into a 12-week lock-down on 23rd March. I set a goal to enrol 250 volunteers as we have about 2500 houses in Stilton and I thought that having one volunteer for every 10 houses would give us a good platform to offer help to anyone who needed it in the village. We have 271 members now.

As people offered their help we collected their details too and passed them on to a database held securely by the Parish Council who had also quickly printed out leaflets and delivered them to each house. The now familiar ‘Hello, if you are self isolating I can help’ flyers were posted through doors to let everyone know they had someone they could rely on during those first very scary weeks. In this way we caught people who were not on social media and may have been left out otherwise.

As a result of the group having a national profile, family members of Stilton residents also got in touch through the site to let us know they would like us to ‘check in’ on their aunty or dad as they were now unable to visit or take them shopping, one as far away as York. We happily added them to our list of residents needing help and with their permission, passed their details on to their neighbours who were offering help.
All through the pandemic we’ve been keeping members up to date with Parish, District and National updates about the new services available to help during the pandemic and what established services have been curtailed so they can pass the information on to those not using social media. We have let people know which local shops are open and those that are offering click and collect services and how you can now access the doctor’s and chemist’s services. By adding links to the page we can make sure you are keeping healthy in both body and mind.

The group has settled into its role now, everyone seemed to get sorted out early on and made connections with their neighbours to support them and that is still ongoing with no fuss or fanfare. In the real world we have made new friends through need for support, some have become fast friends with a neighbour they only raised a hand to on returning from work or putting out the bins, and most have made new virtual friends through the support group.

I am yet to meet Alyson face to face; along with two other residents she is busy crocheting neonatal hats for the Lister hospital, brought about through a link put on our Stilton Covid-19 group. I’m sure they will continue their ‘crotchety’ friendship long after the need for the Stilton Covid-19 support group has disappeared.

**We’ll Meet Again...**

A MESSAGE FROM STILTON IN TUNE

Dear music lovers, writes Tony Oliver.

I hope that you have all stayed clear of the dreaded virus and are coping in these strange times. I am greatly missing presenting our monthly keyboard concerts at the Stilton Pavilion and, regrettably, it would seem highly unlikely for them to restart in the near future. As with many people, our artistes are feeling the pinch and are longing for matters to return to normal when they can start earning again. Quite a few of them have been giving free concerts online and these are being well received.

As time goes by I hope to have more positive news but live entertainment will most probably be one of the last activities to return to some sort of normality. Rest assured that I fully intend to continue our great series of live keyboard shows as and when allowed and it is safe to do so; we may even have some on a fortnightly basis if possible.

In the meantime I offer my musical best wishes to all. We’ll meet again, don’t know when (but we do know where!) Someday we will be back!

*Regards*

*Tony Oliver*
Parish Council News
WORKING FOR A BETTER STILTON

REMOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Despite lock-down the Parish Council is maintaining its efforts for the village and working to help support those in need in these difficult times. As reported last month, the Government has now allowed Councils to hold their meetings remotely so that Council business can continue whilst avoiding public gatherings.

Stilton held its first remote Parish Council meeting at the end of April. Councillors and members of the public wishing to ‘attend’ were provided with a link by the Clerk so they could join the meeting via the Internet. The format proved even more successful than many hoped so it was agreed that meetings would continue remotely until the Government decides that large groups of people can meet together.

In May the Amenities Management Committee held its meeting remotely, again with success. At the time of writing another Council meeting is scheduled for late May. As always, information on meetings of the Council and its Committees are posted on the three village notice boards (at the Parish Room, the village pump and the Pavilion) as well as on the Parish Council website (www.stiltonparishcouncil.org). Links to remote meetings are provided by the Clerk (clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.org).

PAVILION AND PLAYGROUNDS CLOSURES

One consequence of lock-down has been the closure of play areas and public buildings. The Council regrettably had to shut the skate park, the Barn Close play area and the Pavilion; these will remain closed until the Government decides it is safe to open them once more. For the Pavilion this has had a major impact on the clubs and groups that meet there regularly, as well as on those who have had bookings for parties and weddings. As the Government has indicated it will not allow pubs and restaurants to open until at least 4th July - and even then only with strict social distancing and hygiene requirements - the Pavilion is likely to remain closed for at least a similar period.

CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUND AND GREEN SPACES STRATEGY

The report looking at the various options for locating a new children's playground for Stilton was somewhat delayed by the disruption to meetings in March and April, but it is now in the final stages in being approved by the Parish Council. The Council had previously indicated its intention to hold a public consultation following approval of the report, though with current lock-down rules a public gathering is not likely to be permitted for some time. Councillors will need to consider the best way to take into account the needs of villagers.
In preparing the playground report it was recognized that there are few green spaces in Stilton and many of those are not owned by the Parish. Some are owned by the County Council, some by the District Council and others are privately owned by companies such as Luminus.

The Parish Council has agreed that it wishes to make better use of all the green spaces to enhance village amenities and make Stilton a better place to live. To this end, at its April meeting, the Council adopted a new Green Spaces Strategy (see documents at www.stiltonparishcouncil.org). It will now consider all available green spaces in the village and explore possibilities for amenities such as community orchards and gardens as well as play areas and allotments. A first step is to find out what might be allowed on the areas we do not own as well as making plans for those that we do. Ideas from villagers are very much welcomed so that we can work together to build a better Stilton.

**PROGRESS ON OPEN GARDENS 2021**

We hope that those of you who have a garden are enjoying having the time to work and even sit in your gardens! On walking around the village for our daily exercise, we have noticed many beautiful front gardens (keep up the good work Ian P!) and can only imagine how lovely the back gardens are! However, we can all have the opportunity to look at and be inspired by other people's gardens when we have Stilton Open Gardens next June.

So far, nine residents have shown an interest in opening their gardens for Open Gardens. This is really exciting and a fantastic early response. We will need around 15 gardens, maybe more. If you love your garden and would like to share it and your enthusiasm, please consider contacting Dee (see below). We would love to have a variety of gardens from large to small courtyard gardens; from traditional cottage gardens to modern minimalist gardens; from 'Mediterranean' gardens to vegetable gardens.

Funds will go towards amenities for the children and youth of Stilton.

Please contact Dee Darnell to register your interest or to make further enquiries. It would be lovely to hear from you:

dee.darnell@stiltonparishcouncil.org

Telephone: 07806 833555

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**Stilton Memorial Remembrance**

**REMEMBERING INDIVIDUALS**

This month, the memorial flag will fly at half-mast for:

**Scotney, Charles**

Died 17th June 1940

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Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in **SCAN!**
I want to assure the people of North West Cambridgeshire that during the coronavirus crisis my staff and I are continuing to help and assist as many people as possible. We are working from our homes and can still be contacted as follows:

House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA
(Post will be forwarded as necessary)

01780 781224 020 7219 6050
shailesh.vara.mp@parlia
@ment.uk
www.shaileshvara.com
@ShaileshVara

HELPLINES
UK Government Guidance
www.gov.uk/coronavirus
HMRC -Tel: 0800 015 9559
NHS - www.111.nhs.uk
please only call 111 if you cannot get help online
Universal Credit - Tel: 0800 328 5644
School Closures - Tel: 0800 046 8687
Huntingdonshire District Council
www.wearehuntingdonshire.org
Tel: 01480 388 388
Peterborough City Council
www.peterborough.gov.uk/coronavirus
Tel: 01733 747474
Cambridgeshire County Council
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus
General Enquires: 0345 045 5200
Dedicated Helpline for vulnerable residents: 0345 045 5219

This communication is funded by IPSA to assist ShaileshVara MP in his parliamentary duties
Celebrating VE Day
LOCKDOWN DIDN’T STOP US!

The Folksworth & Washingley Group Facebook page is a great source of information and news, writes Sarah Abbott. But not all our readers have Facebook access, so here are some highlights from our VE Day celebrations.

FUNDRAISING SUCCESSES

A VE Day cake stall raised £350 for Frank Mills walking challenge in aid of NHS. Frank has Spina Bifida and was inspired by Captain Tom Moore.

Teddy Bears raised £150 for Magpas Air Ambulance.

Sales of VE Day bunting and scones raised £131 for the Sue Ryder Hospice in Peterborough.

And plant sales too!

FOLKSWORTH PRESCHOOL

Our doors may have been closed and the garden area quiet, but that does not stop us! During April as we all had to settle into a new normal our children were busy working very hard to adapt. But they have, and from the feedback we have had it’s truly become a working partnership.

We here at preschool have been in contact with our families this whole time, through our online learning journal Tapestry. Our parents have been sending photos and video of the work they have been up to with their children at home. The range has been staggering: cooking, yoga, working out with Jo Wicks, painting, maths with water guns and carrots, to name but a few.
Village Says Goodbye to Community Legend Gwen Castle

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Gwen Castle on 18th April following a short illness. Beloved wife of John, dearly loved Mum and Mum-in-law of Anthony, Nigel and Janet, and adored grandma of Amelia and Joseph. The following tributes express the appreciation of many.

‘Gwen was one of the original Trustees when in 1981 the village hall building and its land was gifted into Trust to be known as the Folksworth, Washingley and Morborne Village Hall. In December 2006 the new entrance lobby was opened and after 25 years’ service, Gwen (left) and Shirley Ascott (right) stood down as Trustees and received thanks from the Village Hall Committee.’

‘Gwen was a great friend, a lovely lady and will be greatly missed.’

‘Thank you to Gwen (and John) for restoring the area where Washingley Hall was once located. It is a beautiful spot and a wonderful legacy from Gwen.’

‘A wise and industrious lady to the end. I will miss her tremendously and her knowledge and stories of historic Folksworth and farming.’

The team have been adding challenges for the children to complete and with our parents we have seen our children blossom. We have supported a number of families with learning resources to aid work already being done within Preschool. These doorstep deliveries have been very much welcomed. This just shows the strength and resilience of even our youngest villagers. So we want to say a huge thank you to our parents and well done. You all get an A*!
In these unprecedented times the most important message from the Parish Council is to follow the national guidance.

We are very much open for business as usual so if you have any concerns or worries about anything please get in touch. Councillors and volunteers within the parish are happy to be of assistance.

Parish Council meetings are being held remotely via the Zoom platform. The Agendas go onto the noticeboards and website in the usual way and there is a link on the Agenda to allow you to sit in or take part in a meeting.

The Playing Field remains open for daily exercise and this decision will be reviewed regularly. None of the equipment, however, is available for use until further notice.

The Parish Council bench on the green at the junction of Folksworth Road and Morborne Road was apparently damaged by a runaway vehicle! This was witnessed by a resident and a police report has been made. The bench will be repaired. Other repairs around the parish are also being carried out and the grass continues to be cut.

The History section of the website is currently being developed. If you have any old photographs etc that you would like to be included please get in touch.

Work on the Community Orchard is continuing although obviously, with social distancing in place, not at the rate it was. However, the apple trees and new hedging are all doing well.

Your Parish Council is keen to ensure that all its residents are safe and supported during this time. We would encourage everyone to offer help to those who are self-isolating, especially the over 70s. A friendly call, help with shopping or collecting prescriptions and more may be welcomed, observing current advice such as keeping a two-metre distance and hand washing as you go.

The obvious community spirit around the parish has been a pleasure to witness, with residents looking out for one another. The VE day celebrations were a good example.

The Folksworth Facebook pages and Parish Council website provide details of all the support available in the parish

www.facebook.com/Groups/Folksworthc19/
www.facebook.com/Groups/Folksworth
www.facebook.com/FolksworthandWashingleyPC
www.folksworthwashingley-pc.org.uk

If you are someone who would prefer to receive regular updates via a notice through your door, please can you - or a friend - let us know your name and address by either of the following ways:

● Call your Parish Council helpline, 07724 171158. It's open 7am to 7pm. Outside these hours, please leave a message.
In the same way, please use these trusted communication routes to request help with:

- Shopping
- Prescription collection
- Any other questions, problems or concerns


Jackie Stanbridge
Clerk to the Council/RFO
07724 171158

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**VILLAGE HALL MINI BOOK FAYRE**

We are looking forward to the day when we can hold our Annual Book and Art Fayre. In the meantime, you can find a plastic container of hardback books outside the Village Hall. We have selected hardbacks so that you can wipe them down when you get them home. Help yourself as we will replenish regularly. And if you have books you want taken off your hands, call Sarah or Stephen Abbott on 247275.

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**THANKS, FOLKSWORTH**

The family of Phyllis Hope (Gill, Steve and Graham) were truly moved and thankful to all her friends and neighbours who turned out to line the streets as Phyllis took her last journey from home to the crematorium.

All who knew Phyllis will have fond memories of her. She believed in a village community and had a lovely sense of humour with an easy going nature. We plan to have a memorial service to commemorate her life later in the year and hope that you will be able to join us.

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**Contributors!**

*We want your material!*

For **SCAN**, email scan1@stilton.org or call Kelvin on (01733) 244140

For **Folklore**, email to Sarah Abbott at abbottssarahj@hotmail.co.uk or call her on 247275
The Mendicant Friar
VE DAY 75 FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A WANDERING CLERGYMAN

A while ago, writes Revd Richard Gibbs, Stilton Parish Council had kindly included me and the church in the plans to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. We were all really looking forward to making it a memorable community event.

So... don hat; take sunglasses; camera just in case; put on the dog collar and out the front door to see what's going on. Well, that was my plan on Friday 8th May. Then everything changed and it seemed our plans would come to naught...

No matter. As the day came closer, we heard of new plans being made. People were going to be out in their gardens, bunting would be put up, and a genuine community spirit was clearly going to be in evidence. But what and where? This seemed too good an opportunity to miss, so I planned to get round the village for a meet & greet - as long as the natives were friendly that is, whoever they were, wherever they were.

Many of you will be thinking: ‘Well I didn't see you!’ And you'd be right. I had heard there was quite a knees-up going on at Ermine Crescent, but by the time I got there it was late afternoon and everything was back to normal. The reason I missed you is that everyone was in such good and welcoming spirits early in my travels, that progress was very - er - ‘steady’.

My progress became even ‘steadier’ after a visit to Maple Drive, where I was offered a gin & tonic so big I could have swum lengths in it. But it would have been impolite not to accept at least one of the many offers I received and - I confess - I cracked in the end. But I did find my way home after all! Mostly that was down to the chocolate cake donated on Church Close that helped to soak it up a bit. I knew those things were good for your health.

People were having a great time and it was a fantastic lift to see so many smiles and shared experiences that contrasted with the emphasis on lock-down that had created a fair amount of travel in the opposite direction. I suppose it was cheating to go walkabout as it meant I didn't organise anything myself. However, if you go to the Stilton Churches’ channel on YouTube, you will find a video of the photos I took during the day. There are others from Folksworth and Elton too - thanks to our contributors.

It was one of those days I will never forget. My thanks to all those who made it so.

God bless
Richard
Pam and David Dow live in Stilton and are living with the restrictions for shielded residents. Pam is also a worship leader in our churches and, like many of us, missing face-to-face contact. Here she offers us her thoughts on the frustrations and opportunities this new life has brought.

My world has changed, writes Pam, but then so has everybody else's! Covid-19, a previously unknown virus, spread around the world like a tornado, and in doing so brought our world to its knees.

At first I found it to be an anxious and worrying time. The ever-increasing numbers of deaths was disturbing; worrying and deeply saddening me. Lock-down is a completely new experience and it took time to adapt to the restrictions.

After a few weeks a shielding letter arrived, so I was forced to accept that my world was to be my house and garden. A new daily routine was brought in and I felt it comforting to know what we were doing and to know that others were also in the same situation. With time to fill, I turned to taking up the crafts that I had forsaken for sometime. A real need to keep busy became the norm. I can now truly say my life before lock-down - hectic and tiring - is now a distant memory. Going forward, I am looking forward to a 'new normal' which will bring many opportunities for a better future and a slower pace of life.

I am full of hope and encouragement for all of us to get through this. A lot of wonderful, selfless acts by individuals responding to the needs of others are broadcast and make me feel very proud to be British.

I miss many things: hugging the grandchildren; meeting with my family of churchgoers and going to the hairdresser. Thanks to digital technology I can see and speak to my grandchildren every day and can join in services of worship on TV, radio or YouTube. Alas though, I can do nothing about the hairdresser and must accept the greyness showing through!

Covid-19 lock-down has left a positive mark on me and has given me time to evaluate my life and to get in touch with my inner self. It has also opened my eyes to what really matters to me. Remember, storms do not last forever!
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<td>Toddlers' Dance</td>
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<td>Stay &amp; Play</td>
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<td>Pre-School (Folksworth)</td>
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<td>To join Stilton or Folksworth Rainbows, Brownies or Guides, please visit: <a href="http://www.girlguiding.org">www.girlguiding.org</a></td>
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<td>Stilton United Colts</td>
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<td>Holy Communion (BCP)</td>
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<td>LinCup (Café style worship)</td>
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<td>Stilton Group Service</td>
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<td>Men's Prayer Breakfast</td>
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<td>Holy Communion (soup lunch)</td>
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<td>Prayer Focus</td>
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<td>Christian Congregation in UK</td>
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<td>Zumba</td>
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<td>Pilates (Stilton) - over-50s</td>
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<td>Clubbercise</td>
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<td>Stilton Table Tennis Club</td>
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<td>Stilton Carpet Bowls Club</td>
<td>2pm Mon, 7:30pm Thu</td>
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<td>Folksworth Carpet Bowls Club</td>
<td>7 - 9pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peterborough Opera Group</td>
<td>7:30 - 9:30pm Friday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Band</td>
<td>8 - 9:35pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>5.30 - 7pm</td>
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<td>Mat Pilates</td>
<td>M 6:45-7:45pm, 8-9pm; T 6-7pm; W 9:15-10:15am;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chairobics</td>
<td>Tue 11am-12:30; Thu 10:30am-12noon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Taoist Tai Chi</td>
<td>Tue 2-3pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Folksworth Art Club</td>
<td>3:00pm kick-off</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Folksworth Ladies’ Circle</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yaxley Flower Club</td>
<td>12:30-4:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stilton Stumblers (walking group)</td>
<td>7:30-9:30pm 4th Tuesday in month</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mobile Library (Stilton and Folksworth)</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 7:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Age Well Club</td>
<td>Alternate Sundays 10:00am See info in this issue</td>
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<td>'Chatterbox' Carers' Support Group</td>
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<td>Music &amp; Spoken Word Social Group</td>
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<td>Sawtry Vintage Club</td>
<td>9:30 - 11:45am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sawtry Friendship Club</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Mondays, 2-4pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Fridays, 1:30-3pm</td>
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<td>10am - 2:30pm</td>
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<td>10:30am - 1:30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Are we up to date?
To book: Stilton Pavilion - 07 484 746894 | Folksworth Village Hall - (01733) 241938

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
where to do it and who to do it with!

**WHERE**
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Playgroup
- Stilton Pavilion
- Folksworth Village Hall

**WHO**
- Michelle Pratt
- Leslie Kirk
- Rebecca Mills
- Nikki

**CALL**
- 07906 114942
- 247682
- 07498 528393
- 07542 172075

and click on 'Get Involved.'

As per fixtures

**WHERE**
- Stilton Pavilion or Parish Meeting Room
- Folksworth Village Hall
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Folksworth Village Hall
- Folksworth Village Hall

**WHO**
- Julianne Lawrence (Clerk)
- Jackie Stanbridge
- Pat Maltman
- Diane Glenn

**CALL**
- clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.org
- 07724 171158
- 242229
- 07400 693351

**WHERE**
- St Mary Magdalene
- St Mary Magdalene
- St Mary Magdalene

**WHO**
- Revd Richard Gibbs
- Revd Richard Gibbs
- Revd Richard Gibbs

**CALL**
- 248701
- 248701
- 248701

See notice boards or Stilton Group of Churches' Facebook for details

**WHERE**
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- Stilton Church Meeting Room
- St Mary Magdalene
- St Mary Magdalene
- Folksworth Village Hall

**WHO**
- Irene Goldsmith
- Pat Maltman
- Nigel Rosbrook
- Revd Richard Gibbs
- Stuart Reed

**CALL**
- 244229
- 242229
- 246396
- 248701
- 241114

**WHERE**
- Folksworth Village Hall

**WHO**
- Glen Woolner

**CALL**
- 07771 784643

**WHERE**
- Stilton Pavilion
- Stilton Pavilion
- Stilton Pavilion
- Folksworth Village Hall
- Stilton Pavilion
- Stilton Pavilion
- Folksworth Village Hall
- Folksworth Village Hall
- Folksworth Village Hall
- Folksworth Village Hall

**WHO**
- Russell Leigh
- Vicky Leschallas
- Frances Ellis
- Louise Knox
- Steve Ambler
- Scott Sherrington

**CALL**
- 07805 350389
- 07919 053140
- 07714 773528
- 07957 983950
- 242156
- 242409

**WHERE**
- Th 7:30-8:30pm

**WHO**
- Brian Bowen
- Brian Appleyard
- Sue Gibbs
- Sue Gibbs
- Sue Gibbs
- Terry Baker
- Varies
- Cherry Hadley
- Karen Mason
- Yvonne Wagstaff
- Shirley Gregory

**CALL**
- 241310
- 244642
- 07709 938122
- 07709 938122
- 07709 938122
- 07756 778154
- 07597 613392
- 244258
- 07980 262253
- 243370
- 246209

See advert in this issue

**WHERE**
- Austin Hall, Main Street, Yaxley
- CARESCO Centre
- CARESCO Centre
- CARESCO Centre
- CARESCO Centre

**WHO**
- Miranda
- CARESCO Office
- Vicki
- Pat

**CALL**
- 07751 798287
- 01487 832105
- 01487 832105
- 01487 832105

Date? Tell SCAN about your activities!

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS MAY BE CLOSED…

…BUT THE CHURCH COMMUNITY IS STILL AVAILABLE TO YOU!

FIND OUR BRAND NEW CHANNELS ON YOUTUBE.COM

Put "Stilton Churches" in the search box, click on any of our videos, then click on the channel name that appears under the video to take you to our full list of videos.

"STILTON CHURCHES" INCLUDES:

- A thought for the day
- Services for major Christian Festivals
- Videos to explain how the church is working for the community (including the foodbank)
- Things to make you laugh
- Supported by the regular posts we put onto facebook

"STILTON CHURCHES KIDS" INCLUDES:

- All the best Bible stories
- Bouncy music to sing along to
- Jokes and quizzes
- Things to make and do
Did you know that Clark Gable of ‘Gone With The Wind’ fame was stationed at RAF Polebrook during WW2? writes Stephen Abbott.

The December 7th 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, followed a month later by the death of his wife, Carole Lombard, in a DC-3 crash, changed Gable's life.

Gable and his wife had been engaged in raising money through war bonds, so Gable volunteered for the 8th Air Force, training as an aerial gunner and photographer. He was assigned to England to film ‘Combat America’, a propaganda film about air gunners to help boost recruitment in the US army. He served with the 351st Bombardment Group from 1943-44 and was stationed at Polebrook.

Gable flew five missions as Captain, filming 50,000 ft of gunnery combat during 1943. One mission was flown with the 303rd BG. The rest were with the 351st BG in different aircraft. He received the Air Medal for his service and was later awarded the DFC.

Although officially he flew only five missions, veterans remember him flying many more. He followed the crew of B-17 Ain't it Gruesome with a cameraman and sound engineer through 24 missions.
Many readers will be vaguely aware of an historic bare-knuckle boxing match that took place behind the Bell. But it wasn’t just any old punch-up; it involved the country’s two leading boxers and had a significance far beyond the bounds of Stilton.

We’re grateful to Mr Roberto Nigro for his generous permission to share his research into this interesting event in our history.

1789 was a significant year in our history. George the Prince of Wales became Regent just while France was in a revolutionary turmoil that threatened to spill over into Britain. And the nation was in the grip of virulent antisemitism, with Jews subject to widespread intimidation and violence.

Bare-knuckle boxing was a hugely popular spectator sport, so when the two leading pugilists of the day, Richard Humphreys and the Jewish Daniel Mendoza, squared up for a prize fight in Stilton on the 6th of May it was bound to draw a crowd.

A controversial Humphreys victory at Odiham on the 9th of January 1788 pumped up a war of words that boosted both the sale of newspapers and widespread anti-Jewish sentiment. A rematch was inevitable.

So why Stilton? Three main reasons: as a major stop-over on the Great North Road it was easy to get to; it offered a large number of inns for accommodation and refreshment, and the fight promoter Henry Thornton lived here.

With huge popular interest in this grudge match, Thornton cashed in. On his land behind the Bell Inn, he had a 3000-seat grandstand built surrounding a twelve-foot square boxing ring. Tickets sold at half a guinea each. (In today's money that's about £80, so a gross of nearly £¼m!) With every inn between Stamford and Huntingdon booked solid for the occasion and hosting a large contingent of Britain's aristocracy, including Lord Delaware and the Earl of Tyrconnell, Thornton wasn't the only one cashing in!

Richard Humphreys, from a 1788 painting by Hoppner
As with today's high-profile bouts, mutual rivalry was pumped up by the fighters themselves, their promoters and the highly partisan spectators, so when they entered the ring at around one o'clock the atmosphere was electric. Mendoza was accompanied by his close friend, trainer and umpire Sir Thomas Apreece of nearby Washingley Hall, along with another famous pugilist Michael Ryan as his second and a Captain Brown as his bottle holder. Humphries arrived with the future Lord Mayor of London, Harvey Christian Coombe, as his umpire; a Mr Ford as his second, together with his bottle holder Tom Johnson, another legendary pugilist and the current champion.

The wiry Daniel Mendoza, from a 1789 engraving by Robineau

The fight commenced, unleashing all the pent-up rivalry. Both fighters demonstrated mercurial skill in combat but it became clear that Mendoza’s superior technical skill was giving him the edge over his opponent. In the 22nd round the contest descended into chaos after Humphreys appeared to fall without receiving a blow, which would have lost him the match. Humphreys' corner and supporters declared that he had parried the blow and fallen, whilst Mendoza's supporters cried ‘Foul! Foul!’ Tom Johnson and Captain Brown almost came to blows themselves after Brown had called Johnson 'a liar and a blackguard'.

After nearly an hour of argument, the action was declared fair and the fight re-started. Mendoza continued to wear down Humphreys, not only with his excellent speed, agility and precision but, as noted in Woodfalls Register, also by mocking his opponent. Shades of Muhammad Ali! It was inevitable that Humphreys would go down, and he did in the 65th round having once again fallen without a blow, this time in an insensible state.

Mendoza was celebrated as a hero and carried on the shoulders of his friends towards The Bell to celebrate, working his way through the massed crowd that had gathered to shout 'Mendoza forever' while his Jewish supporters, who were there in droves, called 'Mendoza vekhayam' (is alive and well).

Mendoza's victory was more than just personal; it was a symbolic victory for the nation's beleaguered Jewish community, striking a blow against antisemitic opinion and sparking a change in Jewish identity in Britain. It was a small watershed moment in our social history and it happened in Stilton.
Covid-19 Update

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our patients for your patience and understanding as we all adapt together to a new way of working here at the surgery. We are working as hard as we can to ensure that any potential risks to patients and staff alike are kept to an absolute minimum.

Here at the practice - and this has been echoed both locally and nationally - we have seen a significantly reduced number of patients presenting with serious medical conditions. This is in conjunction with a rise in death rates which are not related to Covid-19.

We would like to remind all patients that even though we are working in different ways, and offering different types of appointments (telephone/video/face to face only if absolutely necessary), we are very much open for business as per usual. Please be aware that first contact will always be by telephone; we can no longer make appointments for patients who turn up at the surgery on spec.

If you have a potentially serious medical condition it is still extremely important that you seek medical advice as soon as possible. Examples of such conditions may include:

- Chest pain
- Worsening of shortness of breath
- Signs of stroke such as sudden onset of weakness or speech problems
- Possible signs of cancer, such as lumps, abnormal bleeding, weight loss, change of bowel habit

We would also like to remind those patients who have young children that childhood immunisations remain a priority service and you should still attend these appointments as and when you receive an invitation.

Online Consultations

We are now offering an online consultation service called DoctorLink, which you can access via our website. This is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The symptom checker will ask you a number of questions to help to identify your problem. The outcome of your assessment will direct you to the right treatment, whether emergency care, your GP, nurse or self-care. If your outcome indicates that an appointment is required you will be contacted by the Practice Team to arrange an appointment within the identified timeframe (as outlined in the outcome of your symptom checker).
**Urine Samples**

We have been finding more unlabelled, unrequested samples being dropped into the sample letter box. Please can I remind patients that **only those samples that have been requested by a member of our clinical team will be processed**. Similarly, if a sample is not clearly labelled it will be discarded.

**Contact Details**

Please remember to keep us updated with your contact details (address, telephone number, email address) so that we can amend your records.

*Best Regards,*  
*Mrs Claire Wright*  
*Practice Manager*

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**LAKESIDE HEALTHCARE**  
(01733) 240478  
www.yaxleygp.nhs.uk

In these uncertain times, currently dominated by the Coronavirus pandemic, it is important to be aware of any unexplained changes to your body which signal the onset of other potentially serious illnesses.

Examples include blood in your urine, a change to your usual bowel habits such as:

- Blood in your poo or diarrhoea
- Constipation no apparent reason
- Pain in your stomach or back passage
- Persistent bloating

or

- Unexplained or unintentional weight loss
- Post-menopausal bleeding or bleeding between periods

- A lump in a breast or a lump that is rapidly increasing in size elsewhere on your body

This is not an exhaustive list and further information can be found online at www.nhs.uk/conditions/cancer/symptoms.

Please get in touch with the practice via Engage Consult https://wsp.psf-live.co.uk/1082/#/portal if you are at all worried about your health.
Flour Arranging
TRY THIS TASTY HOME-MADE BREAD RECIPE

Butternut Squash Bread

The world seems to be divided between those who love making home-made bread and those who’ve never even tried to. Lock-down is prompting many to expand their culinary skills, so when you can grab hold of some bread flour, why not give this recipe a try? It tastes a bit like brioche.

YOU NEED

7g dry yeast
1 cup warm milk
¼ cup warm water
3 tablespoons butter, softened
2 teaspoons salt
½ cup sugar
1 cup mashed or pureed cooked butternut squash
5 to 5-½ cups all-purpose flour, divided

SIMPLES!

In a large bowl, dissolve the yeast in the milk and water. Add the butter, salt, sugar, squash and 3 cups of the flour; beat until smooth. Add enough remaining flour to form a soft dough.

Turn onto a floured surface; knead until smooth and elastic - about 6-8 minutes. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and leave to rise in a warm place until doubled - it takes about an hour.

Form the dough into small rolls approx 80g; place in two greased round baking pans or on a greased tray. Cover and leave to rise again until doubled, about 30 minutes.

Bake at 180°C for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown and the loaves make a hollow sound when tapping the bottom.

Tip: You can replace the butternut squash with pumpkin, carrots or turnips.

Stilton Stumblers
No group walks until further notice

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!
I don't think I can remember so many butterflies in April - and so many different species - writes Pat Maltman. One insect to look out for is the tiny Mint Moth. It's a very pretty, bronze-coloured moth with large yellow circles on its wings and, unlike many other moths, it flies during the day.

**BUGS’ LIFE**

But talking of insects, if you grow lilies it is worth checking them for the dreaded lily beetles every time you walk past. You can't miss them, they are bright red, and round holes in the leaves tell you they have visited. If you see leaves being eaten back from the tip to the stem, look underneath and get rid of the fat grubs. You may also see small batches of tiny cigar-shaped orange eggs.

There are various methods of control. First, simply squash them - but you have to be quick as the beetles just fall off into the soil. You could use 'eco' products containing pyrethrins, or 'Provado' is very effective.

Garden centres have re-opened, but before you plant out your new bedding plants it is worth checking the roots for vine weevil grubs. These fat, white maggots have orange heads and are particularly fond of primulas, hostas, heucheras and other plants with nice juicy roots. They can destroy a plant completely from below. Dispose of these vandals on the bird table!

**SOWING FOR NEXT YEAR**

Now is a good time to think about sowing seeds for next year. I am going to be an advocate for wallflowers which make good partners for spring bulbs and come in a lovely range of colours and glorious scent, unsurpassed in any other spring flower. There are some stunning varieties available; try Chiltern Seeds or Plantworld (online by mail order).

Foxgloves do well in the garden. The seeds are tiny - you get thousands - so just plant a pinch of seeds in a tray or pot, water them in gently but don't cover them; they need light to germinate.

I always associate honeysuckle and its heady scent with June and July but, in this altogether strange year, the one on my back fence has been in full flower since April! It’s easy to grow but go for a variety with a strong scent, otherwise what’s the point?

**CAST NOT A CLOUT…**

By now, French and runner beans, courgettes, outdoor tomatoes and cucumbers as well as hanging baskets should all be happy outside. I say 'should' - apparently, on June 2\(^{nd}\) 1975 snow stopped play in several county cricket matches! What more surprises can this year bring?
Although our physical libraries are closed at the moment there is a wide range of library services you can access from home. When you join Cambridgeshire Libraries you can borrow electronic books, access business resources, and attend online events.

Have a look at our new landing page which contains all the information for our on-line services: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries

You can also manage your loans and search our catalogue using our Spydus app, and you can keep up to date with our monthly eNewsletter at: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/library-news

**KIDS ONLINE**

We are now offering online Storytime and Rhymetimes; do tune in and you will see some familiar library faces! Staff are also taking to the internet with online craft sessions for children. We are also hosting an online Lego Club, in which you can send in your creations.

**SILLY SUMMERTIME**

The 2020 Summer Reading Challenge will still be available for children to participate in but will be delivered in a different way.

The theme for the Reading Challenge is ‘Silly Squad’ and ‘The Let's Get Silly!’ challenge will launch on Friday 5th June, more details to follow

Please share our information on your own Facebook page if you have one.

Our customers, and volunteers are never far from our minds and we look forward to welcoming you back into the library soon.

**MOBILE LIBRARIES**

The normal service has been suspended, but our Mobile Libraries are operating in a different capacity during these unusual times. Our team of drivers are out seven days a week, distributing around 75 hot meals daily, along with toiletries, clothes, books, magazines and jigsaws as requested.

More on this next month.
Yaxley Library
OPENING TIMES

Mon 3:00 - 7:00
Tue 9:30
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

Join today! It’s FREE! Just bring ID with your name and address.

Go online to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries

Mobile Library
Route M24 - 4th Wednesday

Wed 27th May

Suspended

Stilton
09:30-10:15
Outside the school

3:10 - 4pm
Outside The Talbot