Merry Christmas!

This year, Christmas celebrations are likely to be small-scale events, so some people may not be able to join in with the traditional festive gatherings.

We know readers have been actively supporting each other during the Covid restrictions, but don’t forget to reach out to friends or neighbours who might be a bit lonely this Christmas.
Grey Bin Days:  
Mon 14th, Tue 29th Dec;  
Mon 11th Jan

Garden Bin Days:  
Fri 11th, Thu 24th Dec;  
Sat 9th Jan

Recycling Bins:  
Mon 7th, Sat 19th Dec;  
Tue 5th Jan

NOTE THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION DATES! 

www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins

To book a slot at Alconbury recycling depot, go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 0345 045 5207

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What a Year!
JUST KEEP SMILING...

There’s an old Chinese curse: ‘may you live in interesting times’. But at least interesting times can bring out the best in people, as we’ve seen around our community this year. So don’t stop! Covid hasn’t gone away!

SHOP LOCAL

With many small businesses and their employees suffering badly we should do our best to support our local businesses. Especially SCAN’s loyal advertisers, many of whom tell us that SCAN brings in a steady stream of business. So look out for their seasonal offers, such as gift vouchers from Stilton Foot Clinic.

A WELCOME PRESENT

As we go to press, there is much excitement about the successful development of Covid vaccines. An amazing Christmas present! But not even Santa could get everyone immunised overnight. In this issue, the Wellside Surgery explains the practical aspects of deploying a mass vaccination, so be patient and watch for news from the NHS.

CHRISTMAS OPENINGS

Traditionally, we always used to compile details of Christmas openings of local shops and facilities, but the uncertainties and continual changes of Lockdown2 have made this almost impossible. So your best approach is to monitor websites and social media for the most up to date information.

Not everybody of course is tech savvy, so if you have friends, relatives or neighbours who might not be, ask if they’d like you to check online sources for them.

Bin collection dates are shown opposite. The library will publish details on: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library, while Richard plans to circulate his Christmas services in the Churches’ Christmas card.

Currently, rail and bus services are expected to run the usual restricted Christmas timetables but we learn that Kings Cross is planned to be closed for engineering works between 26-30 December.

ENJOY CHRISTMAS

It look as though we won’t be having the customary big Christmas gatherings this year - which some may find a relief! But while we’re focused on small-scale, more intimate celebrations, don’t forget those who might be home alone at Christmas. Reach out to friends and neighbours. How about a bit of socially-distanced carol singing?

This year, SCAN’s bit of Christmas fun is a simple bit of paper crafting that you can enjoy with the children to decorate the tree. See page 20. Oh, and there’s the customary SCAN quiz to tax the little grey cells.

Merry Christmas everybody!
The Remembrance Day service on Sunday 8th at Stilton’s new war memorial was very well attended, writes Barry Gilden. Some sixty people arrived, a risk mitigation was implemented by Richard Gibbs and we all duly kept our distance. Richard gave a short service and veteran Mark Sutcliffe read the traditional words at the beginning of the two minutes’ silence. Steve Ambler played the last post and reveille on his clarinet and it all sounded very good; the church bell tolled for a few minutes before the ceremony began, and thankfully it did not rain. Wreaths were laid as a symbol of gratefulness and in memory of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom today. Crosses were also placed on the graves in the cemetery.

On Wednesday 11th twenty people were in attendance for a minutes silence, and it was good to see veterans and people conversing with each other after both events.

Stilton Memorial Remembrance
REMEMBERING INDIVIDUALS

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

Thomson, Charles Nathan
Died 4th December 1914

Stretton, William
Late 1915

We will remember them
Finding the Fallen
THEIR NAME LIVETH

The ancient Egyptians, we are told, believed that you were immortal for as long as your name was remembered. They had a point, so it’s particularly pleasing that Tony Edwards’ diligent persistence has finally tracked down W Stretton, the only remaining person not accounted for listed on Stilton’s War Memorial.

There are no further details about him listed anywhere, writes Tony, but I believe him to be William Stretton.

In military records dated September 1916 an Edward Stretton of Fen Lane, Stilton, names a William Stretton, serving in the Bedfordshire Regiment, as his next of kin. Edward is shown as just over 18 years which indicates he was born in 1898 but other documents in his file show his birth year variously as 1897 and 1899.

The 1901 UK census has a four year old Edward living in Cosby, Leicestershire, the son of Robert and Elizabeth Stretton. They also have six other children, including a son called William, who is six years old, therefore born approximately 1895. Robert is shown as a ‘licenced hawker (with caravan)’. The place of birth for the whole family is shown as ‘Not Known’.

In the 1911 UK census, a 14 year old Edward Stretton is shown as a boarder, living in Stilton at the house of John and Sarah Stanger.


An entry in the record, ‘Soldiers who died in the Great War’, lists a W Stratton, with an A, but it has matching regimental numbers and shows he was now in the 10th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment.

A medal rolls index card has William Stratton in the Hampshire Regiment, with the correct regimental number, listing him as presumed dead and dated 3rd October 1915?

In the ‘Register of Soldiers Effects’, William Stratton of the Hampshire Regiment, is officially presumed dead on 22nd December 1915 and leaves his War Gratuity of £7 16s 7d to his uncle and aunt, John and Sarah Stanger. This takes us back to the 1911 census and Edward living in Stilton.

The marriage records show a John Stanger marrying in 1879 and his bride was Sarah Ann Stretton.

Allowing for the various spellings of Stretton in the records and the uncertain year of birth, I feel that this explains who the W Stretton is on the memorial. I can only assume he went missing and died some time between 3rd Oct and 22nd December 1915.

There is only one small mystery, if William died late in 1915, why did Edward list him on his joining up papers as next of kin in September 1916?
Parish Council News
KEEPING YOU INFORMED

SUB-COMMITTEE GIVEN NEW FOCUS

The Sub-committee for Children’s and Youths’ Amenities has been given new Terms of Reference by Stilton Parish Council. In the longer term it will continue to explore the various aspects of developing children’s and youths’ amenities. However, in the short term it will be focusing on options for play equipment and gathering useful information for planning our amenity areas.

At least three Parish Councillors will sit on the Sub-committee and the Parish Council is keen to involve residents in the Sub-committee’s work. If you are interested in being a member of the Sub-committee please contact the Parish Clerk (clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.org) or drop a note into the post box at the Parish Room, Church Street.

FINANCES

In these difficult times the Parish Council is working hard to balance its books despite the loss of income with the Pavilion being closed. But already we have to plan the Council’s finances for the next financial year. We are pleased to say that, by careful measures, we have been able to agree a budget that will keep the village precept (the proportion of our rates that is allocated to Stilton) the same as in 2020-21.

CHRISTMAS 2020

This Christmas could be a very different experience for us all. However, the message stays the same - Stilton Parish Council sends warmest wishes to all our residents and their friends and families at this special time of the year.

Merry Christmas!

Brenda and Archie would like to send festive greetings and wish everyone a Happy Christmas during these difficult times.

May the New Year bring us all good health and a safe journey through 2021.

God bless you all

The SCAN production and delivery team wish all our contributors, readers and loyal advertisers a happy Christmas, and a healthy and prosperous 2021.
Harvest Home
A TIME FOR SHARING

Harvest time this year has been very different at Stilton CofE Primary Academy, writes Head of School Helen Smallman. There was no singing of Harvest Hymns, no visiting the church for Harvest Festival with our families - it was not the same.

We were however treated to a virtual Harvest Festival led by Rev’d Richard and were able to collect for the food bank at St Peter’s, Yaxley. Our school community were especially generous this year donating 183kg of food - a huge thank you to you all. I know Rev’d Sarah was extremely grateful on behalf of St Peter’s. The number of families needing support has dramatically risen in recent times and it is important that we support them in making life a little easier if we can.

Stilton School pupils proudly displaying their whopping collection of items for the Foodbank.
Looking back at previous editions of Folklore, it's fantastic to see how much activity there was in the village this year despite the pandemic. Here are some of the highlights:

- Folksworth Bears
- Easter Trail
- VE day including cake, bunting and plant sales
- VJ Day flower bombing
- Scarecrow Festival
- Book Fayre
- Coffee mornings

...and lots of freebies shared on people's doorsteps found new homes rather than going to landfill. Let's hope we are able to do even more next year.

**FOLKSWORTH PRESCHOOL**

The Folksworth PreSchool team have arranged with Santa for a magical tree to be placed outside the Village Hall on 1st December. Place your letter on the tree at it will be magically sent directly to Santa.

For a small donation, Santa will write a letter back. See the advertisement for further details.

**VILLAGE HALL**

In accordance with Government guidelines, the Village Hall closed on 5th November with the exception of PreSchool. At the time of writing we hope to reopen when lockdown ends, but due to the uncertainty we have cancelled the Christmas Fayre. Fingers crossed we will be able to hold a Spring Fayre.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us during a challenging year. We look forward to 2021 when we can hopefully officially open our new hall and put on all the events we have in the pipeline.

**FOLKSWORTH CARPET BOWLS**

If government guidelines permit, to round off 2020 we will have two meetings: 7th and 14th December. We hope all our members have a good Christmas and New Year. Let's hope 2021 brings us all a bit of hope for a more normal of bowling season. Contact Chris on 241938.

**ART GROUP**

Having successful and safely held meetings in the Village Hall for a few weeks, once again the Art Club is in lockdown. We enjoyed our painting sessions and the opportunity to show each other what we have been doing. As the Christmas Fair has been cancelled we are unable to show our recent work but hope to do so in the Spring.

Lockdown does, however, give us the chance to view and read the many videos...
and art books which are available, and this is helping to inspire our future work.

We hope to be painting again soon, but until then ‘keep safe and keep painting’. It's a wonderful therapy. Contact Cherry on 244258.

**LADIES CIRCLE**

This year we sadly said goodbye to our Co-ordinator Phyllis Hope, and our ex-Treasurer, Hazel Brecht, both longstanding members and both greatly missed.

Covid-19 meant we couldn't meet and so instead we issued our first newsletter in October. This was well received by our members and the many messages of encouragement were very much appreciated.

Hopefully we will be able to resume our meetings sooner rather than later in 2021. In the meantime, please stay safe everyone, and we'll see you soon. Wishing all our members - past, present and future(!) - a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Contact Karen on 07980 262253

**DID YOU KNOW?**

It’s been five years since we merged Folklore into **SCAN**!

Thanks to everybody who’s helped make it such a success. Just keep bringing us your news!
This article is the first of a four-part series based on the childhood memories of Folksworth resident, Myrtle Clarke. It paints a vivid picture of daily life in one of Britain’s most challenging periods.

Myrtle was interviewed by Alison Brown and myself in September 2018, shortly before she passed away. In a small conservatory looking out on her huge, exquisitely-kept garden, a happy afternoon sped by as she regaled us about growing up during WW2 in Denton and Caldecote.

She spoke quickly and in detail so I couldn't quite get everything down and have filled in any gaps by compiling her family tree and those of the people she mentioned. Alison and I were so grateful for her generosity in telling her story. We wanted to share it with you, especially as she gave a female perspective on a rural wartime childhood. Her experience reflects that of most people of her generation who grew up here, at a time when Folksworth was just a hamlet. Unlike WW1, no Folksworth or Washingley men died in battle in WW2, but life did not remain untouched.

THE CLARK(E) FAMILY

‘Local families are all intertwined,’ said Myrtle. She was brought up with just one sibling - younger brother Malcolm - in Denton Lodge in Denton. Her father, Cyril, worked as a master heavy goods vehicle driver ‘removing cattle’ on his brother-in-law's farm. Denton had a population of 76 in 1931. When Myrtle was growing up, there was no mains water; water was supplied from the open Caldecote Well that ‘never ran dry’. It was only roofed after a young boy drowned in it in about 1936. In 1939 Myrtle's mother, Mrs Gertrude Clarke, was an assistant elementary school teacher.

DAILY LIFE WAS PRIMITIVE

Denton was sustained by a spring. Another senior resident, Wilf Prior, describes all water being fetched by his grandmother, Selina, from the pond in Folksworth, with water for consumption coming from ‘the drinking pond’. There were no flush toilets in the Clarke household, but ‘buckets’ cleaned out by her father twice a week. Her uncle had his cess pit emptied every two years, with the contents spread on the fields as fertiliser.

Myrtle remembered bath-time on a Saturday or Sunday evening in front of the fire as ‘heaven’ but wondered how her parents emptied the bath, which must have been heavy. All dirty water was ‘just thrown out’.

It was not until Myrtle went to Nottingham University after the War that she enjoyed the benefit of electricity. ‘It was wonderful!’ In Denton, candles and torches were still in use at night, much to the surprise of her university friend Shirley from Manchester on a visit.

To get around, everyone had a bike. (The late Frank Coles and Ray Frost confirmed this fact in an earlier interview) with a 'pedal light' at the front, as opposed to a battery.
light, and no room to fix a rear light. Woe betide you if you cycled on a new footpath, as a young cyclist found out to his cost when he was stopped by the local policeman.

**THE SHADOW OF WW1**

In 1939 communities were still reeling from the effects of WW1. Five men from Folksworth had been killed (in addition to the two Eyles brothers who had moved away to London as children.) Denton had lost four men. Happily, Myrtle's family members all came home safely, including her Uncle David, who had served in the Royal Artillery in France and Flanders, and her Uncle Charlie, who had been wounded. But the families lived ‘horrible lives waiting to see who had risen, and who had not’. And now it was going to happen all over again.

**THE HOME GUARD IN DENTON**

During the War, the Home Guard used the hill as a lookout point, but had no access to a telephone or any other means of communication to sound the alert! To block the road from any advancing Germans, large stones had been moved from near the stores on the farm. At the beginning of the War, the local Home Guard - particularly the village postman - was also fond of parading in uniform. Unfortunately, not all members of the Home Guard had one.

**PRISONERS OF WAR**

Other changes left an impression, such as the arrival of evacuees in Folksworth, the Italian Prisoner of War camp in Yaxley and the skies full of military aircraft, including the bombers flying off from Holme on mass bombing raids over Dresden.

Next month we follow Myrtle’s life in the village school and her progress to grammar school.
What a difference a few weeks makes! At the time of writing the country is a week into its second national lockdown.

Although guidance allowed the Council to open its playpark in July it has decided for now to close it again, although this decision will be reviewed weekly. The time of year and children now being back at school/nursery played a part in that decision, together with councillors’ concerns about the safety and wellbeing of its residents following various reports of general guidance, such as social distancing, not being observed. In addition, some of the equipment has recently been damaged and Councillors are having to clear up increasing amounts of litter. Council is currently looking at various cleaning regimes, including external contractors. If its current decision is changed it will be posted on social media and the website.

The community Facebook page is an important tool in keeping people talking and sharing information and we will post any changes on the website as and when we receive them together with any information we feel might be useful. Please get in the habit of checking the site daily as things can change quickly.

Parish Council meetings continue to be 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 the Open Forum section of the meeting. If you have any issues to raise but are unable to sit in on a meeting please let me know in advance and I will ensure they are discussed.

Councillors are currently working on their budget for the next financial year, which in turn sets the Parish Precept. We have been warned that services could be withdrawn from higher tier authorities. It is difficult to predict how widespread they will be or what effect that could have on the local community.

The new website is a work in progress and current the history section is being developed. All the news from the Village Hall is now on the site and the Walks and Maps page is being worked on. There are three maps on the site at the moment, each offering a different walk around the parish. In these uncertain times it’s good to get out and about so please take a look. If you have any ideas for any of the pages or would like a link to your organisation, please get in touch. The website address is www.folksworthwashingley-pc.org.uk

The Parish Councillors continue to do their quarterly maintenance walks to identify areas needing attention. In between these if there is anything you see that needs to be looked at such as potholes, raised drain covers, overgrown hedges etc please let me know. As the nesting period is now officially over hedges and trees can be maintained. If there are any on your property which are overhanging the footpath...
or making it narrower than usual could you please remedy this. We often receive complaints from parents pushing pushchairs and people using mobility scooters that they are unable to get past.

Council is not permitted to organise an official litter pick but would encourage all residents to keep an eye on their own areas. Many of you are already doing this and we are very grateful.

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 1 metre plus distance and hand washing as you go.

Support details can be found on:

The Folksworth Facebook pages:
www.facebook.com/Groups/Folksworthc19/
www.facebook.com/Groups/Folksworth

Websites:
www.facebook.com/FolkworthandWashingleyPC
www.folksworthwashingley-pc.org.uk

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

- Call your Parish Council helpline, 07724 171158.
- Email: clerk@folksworthwashingley-pc.org.uk

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

Mobile Library
Route M24 - 4th Wednesday
Wed 23rd Dec

Folksworth
10:30 - 10:50am Elm Road

Stilton
3:10 - 4pm
Outside The Talbot

MobileLibraries@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Surviving Christmas
FINDING WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE NATIVITY

As I write these notes in lock-down, I can't help but feel the following is a bit speculative! However, if I can give you a flavour of the things we hope to do, then surely that's a start.

The expectation is that in December our churches will be able to host services again, so from 5th December we will return to the services described on our noticeboards. Please note that we will be meeting in Folksworth Church for the communion service on the second Sunday of each month.

Normally in December we would have all kinds of wonderful plans to invite people to outdoor Nativities, Carol Services, large-scale school celebrations and so on. Sadly, we believe that, no matter what happens in December, these won't be possible. We will also have to wait to see what advice is given about gatherings before we can say what is happening specifically. Please keep an eye on Facebook, our website, YouTube - the places we have used over the last months to publicise what we are doing.

We will have our usual Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services (apart from the Crib service at Folksworth). Space will be limited and we will need to produce a seating plan, so please contact your churchwarden if you want to come. We may not be able to admit people who come unannounced.

Other possibilities include a Virtual Christingle, Carol Concert and village treasure hunt. We will do our very best to keep you informed as more clarity appears. We will send you all a Christmas card through your letterbox which will hopefully include more detail as it's produced in a couple of weeks’ time.

In the meantime, I hope you all have a Happy Christmas!

God bless,
Richard

Contributors!
We want your material!

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

For Folklore, email to Sarah Abbott at abottssarahj@hotmail.co.uk or call her on (01733) 247275
Taking the Biscuit
SCAN’S CHRISTMAS QUIZ

The answers are all types of biscuit.
1. Your body's internal system
2. A prosperous drink
3. A frozen bird in a tuxedo
4. A black one in London
5. A child's toy
6. American whiskey
7. A redhead
8. A hitting stick with many members
9. Get at it with 2K
10. A mad dairy product
11. Frozen diamonds
12. Find these on your cooker
13. Half a loaf
14. Spice with bite
15. Lucky people who get out of the way
16. A drink before lunch?
17. A wanderer's luxury
18. A short foreign holiday?
19. An aging Mr Glitter?
20. A pleasing holiday resort

Answers in this issue. No peeking!
Egg Nog used to be quite the in drink at one time, so maybe it’s due for a revival. If you’re feeling adventurous in the kitchen why not try this recipe from Izzy?

**Egg Nog**

**YOU NEED**

- 4 large eggs
- ¾ cup sugar
- ½ tsp dried nutmeg
- ¼ tsp ground cinnamon
- 3 oz cognac - (about ⅓ cup + 1 Tbsp)
- 3 oz bourbon - (about ⅓ cup + 1 Tbsp)
- 1½ cups whole milk
- 1 cup cream

**AND THEN…**

Add the eggs to a blender and blend for 30 seconds on MED speed (or LOW if you only have HIGH and LOW setting options).

Add the sugar and blend another 20 seconds.

Add nutmeg, cinnamon, cognac, bourbon, milk and cream and blend until combined - about 10-15 seconds.

Transfer to an airtight container and refrigerate for a day or so to allow the flavours to combine and mellow.

And for heaven’s sake drink responsibly. Comatose on the floor with egg dribbling round your chops is not a good look…

---

**Stilton Stumblers**

Lockdown 2 has temporarily put our Stumbling on hold, but we hope to resume regular walks during December.

Existing members will be contacted by email with proposed details.

For more information about Stumbling, just Google ‘Stilton Stumblers’ or call Shirley on (01733) 246209

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FOLKSWORTH, WASHINGLEY AND MORBORNE VILLAGE HALL

XMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER
FROM 11 AM TO 3PM

FOLKSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

With cake, home cards and bags, books for Christmas, art from our local group and more... Refreshments available

Admission FREE - and no charge to stall holders (although donations towards village hall improvement fund appreciated)

Please call Sarah Abbott on 247275 to book a table
### What to do, where to do it and who to do it with

#### MTWT F S S  WHAT  WHEN

**MTWT F S S  WHAT  WHEN**

| 0 | 0 | 0 | AM | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Toddlers' Dance | 9:15am |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|< Playgroup (Stilton) | 8:45 - 11:45 | 11:45 - 12:30 | 12:30 - 3:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Stay & Play | 9 - 10:15am |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Pre-School (Folksworth) | 9:00am - 3:00pm |

**YOUNGSTERS**

- To join Stilton or Folksworth Rainbows, Brownies or Guides, please visit: www.girlguiding.org
- Stilton United Colts

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Parish Council (Stilton) | 7:30pm 2nd Tuesday in month |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Parish Council (Folksworth) | 7:30 - 9:30pm 3rd Tuesday in month |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Sewing Group | 2:30 - 5pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Friday Social Group | 2 - 4pm |

**CHURCH**

- Holy Communion
- Holy Communion (BCP)
- LinCup (Café style worship)
- Stilton Group Service
- Linking Hands (mums)
- Crossover (Y6)
- Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Holy Communion (soup lunch)
- Prayer Focus
- Christian Congregation in UK

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Zumba | 7:15 - 8:15 Friday. All fitness levels; children welcome |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Pilates (Stilton) - over-50s | 11:30am-12:30 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Pilates (Folksworth) | 10:00 - 11:00am |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Clubbercise | 7:30 - 8:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Stilton Table Tennis Club | 7.15 - 8.15pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Stilton Carpet Bowls Club | Mon (adults) 2-4pm; Thu 6:30-9:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Folksworth Carpet Bowls Club | 2pm Mon, 7:30pm Thu |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Peterborough Opera Group | 7 - 9pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Band | 7:30 - 9:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Yoga | 8 - 9:35pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Mat Pilates | 5.30 - 7pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Chairbies | M 6:45-7:45pm, 8-9pm; T 6-7pm; W 9:15-10:15am |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Chairbies | Tue 11am-12:30pm; Thu 10:30am-12noon |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Chairbies | Tue 2-3pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Stilton United FC | 3:00pm kick-off |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Taoist Tai Chi | 7:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Folksworth Art Club | 12:30-4:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Folksworth Ladies' Circle | 7:30-9:30pm 4th Tuesday in month |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Yaxley Flower Club | 3rd Thursday, 7:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Stilton Stumblers (walking group) | Alternate Sundays 10:00am See info in this issue |

**SPORT & LEISURE**

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Mobile Library (Stilton and Folksworth) | 4th Wednesday in month |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Age Well Club | 9:30 - 11:45am |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< 'Chatterbox' Carers' Support Group | 2nd & 4th Mondays, 2-4pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Music & Spoken Word Social Group | 2nd & 4th Fridays, 1:30-3pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Sawtry Vintage Club | 10am - 2:30pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Sawtry Friendship Club | 10:30am - 1:30pm |

**OTHER**

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Playgroup (Stilton) | 8:45 - 11:45 | 11:45 - 12:30 | 12:30 - 3:30pm |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|< Stay & Play | 9 - 10:15am |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Parish Council (Folksworth) | 9:00am - 3:00pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Sewing Group | 2:30 - 5pm |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |< Friday Social Group | 2 - 4pm |

### Are we up to date? Tell

To book: Stilton Pavilion - 07 484 746894  | Folksworth Village Hall - (01733)

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in **SCAN**!
**WHERE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHERE</th>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>CALL</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Michelle Pratt</td>
<td>07906 114942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Leslie Kirk</td>
<td>247682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Rebecca Mills</td>
<td>07498 528393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Nikki</td>
<td>07542 172075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion or Parish Meeting Room</td>
<td>Julianne Lawrence (Clerk)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.org">clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Jackie Stanbridge</td>
<td>07724 171158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Pat Maltman</td>
<td>242229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Diane Glenn</td>
<td>07400 693351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary Magdalene</td>
<td>Revd Richard Gibbs</td>
<td>248701</td>
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<td>St Mary Magdalene</td>
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<td>St Mary Magdalene</td>
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<tr>
<td>See notice boards or Stilton Group of Churches’ Facebook for details</td>
<td>St Mary Magdalene</td>
<td>248701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Irene Goldsmith</td>
<td>244229</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Pat Maltman</td>
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<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Nigel Rosbrook</td>
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<td>St Mary Magdalene</td>
<td>Revd Richard Gibbs</td>
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<td>St Mary Magdalene</td>
<td>Stuart Reed</td>
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**AS PER FIXTURES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHERE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Russell Leigh</td>
<td>07805 350389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Vicky Leschallas</td>
<td>07919 053140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Frances Ellis</td>
<td>07714 773528</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Louise Knox</td>
<td>07957 983950</td>
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<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Steve Ambler</td>
<td>242156</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Scott Sherrington</td>
<td>242409</td>
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<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Brian Bowen</td>
<td>241310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilton Pavilion</td>
<td>Brian Appleyard</td>
<td>244642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Sue Gibbs</td>
<td>07709 938122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilton Church Meeting Room</td>
<td>Sue Gibbs</td>
<td>07709 938122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St B's Hall, Yaxley</td>
<td>Sue Gibbs</td>
<td>07709 938122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As per fixtures</td>
<td>Terry Baker</td>
<td>07756 778154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin Hall, Main Street, Yaxley</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>07597 613392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Cherry Hadley</td>
<td>244258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folksworth Village Hall</td>
<td>Karen Mason</td>
<td>07980 262253</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yaxley British Legion</td>
<td>Yvonne Wagstaff</td>
<td>243370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet at the Pump</td>
<td>Shirley Gregory</td>
<td>246209</td>
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</tbody>
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**See advert in this issue**

**Stilton Pavilion**

**Stilton Church Meeting Room**

**Folksworth Village Hall**

**Yaxley British Legion**

**Meet at the Pump**

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**Special Offer? Tell SCAN about your activities!**

*938 241938 | Stilton Church Meeting Room - (01733) 241709 | Leave a LANDLINE number!*

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Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in **SCAN**!
Have a Crafty Christmas
MAKE THESE COOL TREE DECORATIONS

This year, SCAN’s Christmas fun for our readers is a neat bit of papercraft that makes very elegant tree decorations.

YOU NEED

- Squares of thin card (recycle old calendars, magazine covers, wallpaper, whatever.)
- Paper glue (eg Pritt Stick or PVA)
- Odd bits of thin ribbon

We’ve provided a sample on the next two pages to get you started. Once you’ve got the hang of it (easy!) you’ll be able to make more of whatever size you want.

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut out the square on page 24 and place face down on the table.

2. Fold bottom to top. Make a good sharp crease and then unfold.

3. Fold side to side likewise.

4. Similarly, make two diagonal folds.

5. Fold one of the sides to the diagonal - like making a paper dart. Unfold and repeat seven more times, working around the paper. You should now have a pattern of creases as shown opposite.

6. Carefully squeeze the points marked A towards the centre to bring up the four corners to resemble a crown.

7. Apply glue to the areas marked and bring the points together. If you intend to hang it from the tree, include a loop of ribbon when sticking two opposite points. Take particular care to get all the creases tidy.
Evidently, you can use your creativity to make a variety of simple or fancy designs - perhaps use coloured card, decorate with patterns, or even stick glitter on. If you make larger ones you could fill them with sweets (e.g. Smarties, M&Ms etc) for the children.

Why not send SCAN some photos of your handiwork?
CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Digestive
2. Rich Tea
3. Penguin
4. Taxi
5. Yo-Yo
6. Bourbon
7. Ginger Nut
8. Club
9. KitKat
10. Cream Crackers
11. Iced Gems
12. Hobnobs
13. Shortbread
14. Ginger Snaps
15. Jammie Dodgers
16. Morning Coffee
17. Gypsy Cream
18. Breakaway
19. Gingerbread
20. Nice

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in SCAN!
Library.Live is a new digital home for Cambridgeshire Libraries. Powered by our local librarians, it brings together events, information, recommendations and more! To ask us a question please use this link: www.library.live/ask-a-question

Our libraries continue to offer a range of online services to help cope with the Covid restrictions. These include:

**eLibrary**

You can access eMagazines, eAudiobooks, Enewspapers to download FREE. Go to: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/library-online

A monthly eNewsletter:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/library-news

Online Storytime & Rhymetime sessions.

**The Library Presents 'In Your House'**

The autumn season of activities is now underway. Sign up to the Newsletter, or like and follow @TheLibraryPresents on Facebook or Instagram.

To keep up to date with what's on or to join the mailing list visit:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/arts

**EngAge Online**

These digital and interactive sessions temporarily replace the very successful EngAge events in libraries. The programme offers a variety of speakers and topics. For information on upcoming sessions visit: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/library-online

If you are interested in being in the audience for any of these events and please email to: volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Staff from Cambridgeshire Libraries would like to wish all our customers and volunteers and lovely Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!
Be Undefeatable!

You are **twice as likely** to be inactive if you are living with a long-term health condition. 15 leading health and social care charities representing many of the 15 million people living with long-term health conditions, along with the support from Sport England, have come together to create a unified voice and to develop a unique and important behaviour change.

The ‘*We Are Undefeatable*’ campaign aims to change the misconception that those of us with long-term health conditions can't be active. It seeks to inspire and empower those of us who are least active to build physical activity into our lives in small chunks, in a way that long-term health conditions allow, whilst celebrating every little victory.

The campaign includes inspirational real-life experiences of people getting active despite the ups, downs and unpredictability of their condition. Visit: https://weareundefeatable.co.uk/

Monthly Closure Dates

The Practice will be closed on the following days due to Christmas Holidays:

- Friday 25th December
- Saturday 26th December
- Monday 28th December

In event of an emergency call 999, or for anything less urgent call 111.

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

Just speak to your GP. An unexplained lump could be a sign of cancer. It’s probably nothing serious, but finding cancer early makes it more treatable. Your NHS is here to see you, safely.

The Doctors and Staff wish you all a very Happy, Safe and Healthy Festive Season!

Be sure to tell our advertisers you found them in **SCAN!**
There are many ways you can start moving more with a health condition. To try one, download the free Active 10 walking app.
‘Covid vaccine by Xmas from GPs?’ What does this mean for me?

Whilst we certainly would want to be involved in any vaccination campaign, we don't have any information ourselves yet and contrary to media reports no 'deals' have yet been done, but we expect more information soon.

Will you be getting paid to vaccinate us?

GPs hold a contract with the NHS to provide certain services. That contract pays for the building, the heating and electricity, the nurses, receptionists and staff, clinical equipment and a variety of other expenses that go with providing services to patients.

If the government wants GPs to do something new (eg deliver a new vaccine) it will buy that service from the GP to pay for the extra staff, clinics and hours to cover expenses. It is very unlikely that GPs will make a profit out of the Covid vaccine. Based on current information they may make a loss, but recognise that it is the right thing for their patients and communities.

But what we don't know is what we might have to consider stop doing, to free up time to provide this vaccination service; we are working at 150% compared with this time last year, according to our LMC's survey.

No, not by a long stretch.

Flu jabs are delivered in their own little syringes, and kept refrigerated. They can safely last in a vaccine fridge for several months. We can keep them and use them, either in dedicated flu clinics or opportunistically if we see you for something else. We can run the clinics a bit like a conveyor belt, as I'm sure many of you will have experienced. We can get a large number of people vaccinated in a very short period of time. People then leave the practice immediately. Once a year, job done.

So what's different about a new Covid vaccine compared with the flu jab?

These new vaccines are not yet ready and we don't know when they will be. They are completely different. They need to be stored frozen in special dry ice, colder than a home freezer (about -70°C). Surgeries don't have those freezers. So they will be delivered whilst they are defrosting for use. However they can only be stored in a vaccine fridge for a few days before expiring. They don't come in their own little syringes. We will have to carefully draw them up from a main vial, dilute and mix them for each individual which will probably take from start to finish about 20 minutes, needing two members of staff (one to draw up, one to check - this is established safe practice with these
preparations to minimise error). Once the patient has received their Covid-jab they must wait for 15 minutes to ensure no serious reaction - these vaccines are brand new, and whilst there is a huge regulatory framework to ensure their safety, we will have to take extra care. This in itself will be difficult as we have to maintain social distancing and we don't know how quickly these clinics will take place. It will be nowhere near as quick as a flu clinic.

**Will this be at my local GP surgery?**

To begin with, NHS England thinks that areas will have one central Covid-jab centre. This might be in a local practice. It might be yours; it might not. You may have to travel. How the chosen centre will continue to look after its patients ongoing and urgent health needs, we don't yet know. No details of those plans have been shared yet.

**Is it just one jab?**

No; you will need two. They will be 3-4 weeks apart but you must not have had any other vaccinations in the previous week.

**How many patients will get the vaccine when it's ready?**

Government says it wants 40 million people vaccinated (that's 80 million appointments). Putting that into context, every year there are 40 million A&E attendances and 360 million GP appointments. This is going to take a long time. There are no spare GPs or practice nurses. We don't yet know how we are going to plan for this on top of what we are doing now - managing hundreds of acute and chronic patients every day: on the phone, over video and being brought into the surgery by invitation.

**Will it be available by Christmas?**

No one knows. But if it is, there will be a very small number of doses and we think the Government might suggest protecting Care Home residents first.

Whatever you read in the paper or online, don't forget: this is going to be very difficult. We need to make sure there is a safe system and a safe vaccine first.

Even when it comes, it won't prevent Covid, it will only make its effects milder. So please bear with us - we are in the dark too.

And there is still every reason to think 'Hands, Space, Safe' for a long time to come.

Keep safe.

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR**

During this period, please submit your repeat prescription requests in plenty of time and remember to allow two working days for your request to be processed.

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

*Best Regards,*  
*Mrs Claire Wright*  
*Practice Manager*
The Holly and the Ivy
- AND THE MISTLETOE TOO

When people celebrated the winter solstice - the shortest day - by bringing greenery into their houses, they were trying to ward off evil spirits and celebrating the hope of new growth. This tradition goes way back to pre-Christian times and became amalgamated into Christmas celebrations. But decorating Christmas trees is a much more recent introduction; Prince Albert brought this German tradition to Victorian England. In Germany Christmas trees have been around since at least the 1500s.

Holly always seems to have been used as a Christmas symbol, appearing in many of our traditional carols. In Scandinavia holly is called Christ Thorn. Holly wood is the whitest wood of any tree, very close-grained and traditionally used for making walking sticks. Holly leaves tend to be very prickly in hedges and on lower branches of trees but become smoother the higher up the tree they are, where they are less likely to be browsed by deer. Holly is a dioecious plant, producing either male or female flowers, so you need two trees to get berries. One producing only male flowers will never produce berries and a tree producing female flowers needs a male tree in the vicinity in order for it to produce berries. Just to confuse you further, if you buy a holly for the garden, a variegated form, Silver Queen, is male while Golden King, another variegated form, is female!

Ivy is one of those plants we seem to spend more time trying to remove, but it is very important to wildlife and supports over 50 species. As it flowers from September to November it is an important source of nectar for wasps, butterflies and hoverflies late in the year. The berries have a high fat content so are attractive to birds in the early spring. Ivy leaves take two forms, the typical ‘ivy-leaf’ shape on the juvenile, climbing strands and the more ‘ordinary’ leaf shape on the mature shrubby branches which produce flowers. Curiously, cuttings taken from the juvenile strands will climb, eventually producing flowering branches but cuttings from mature branches will remain shrubby and never climb.

Ivy is a symbol of fidelity and it is said that if you wear it as a wreath around your head you won’t get drunk! This is why Bacchus, the Roman god of winemaking, is often portrayed wearing an ivy wreath. (Also the god of insanity - spot the connection?)

Mistletoe is a hemi-parasite. This means it takes water and nutrients from a host tree but does its own photosynthesis to produce carbohydrates. There are over 900 species of plant called ‘mistletoe’ around the world but they are not the same genus, nor even the same family in many instances. I have seen ‘mistletoe’ in Arizona and Australia but they are not our mistletoe. The European
mistletoe, Viscum album, has the largest range of host plants of all. We see it on hawthorn and poplar but most often on cultivated apple trees. Again, mistletoe is dioecious so you will need a male and a female plant to produce berries. Birds spread mistletoe from tree to tree by wiping their sticky beaks on the bark and leaving behind a seed which will root into a crack in the bark. You can ‘plant’ mistletoe by pushing berries into bark. As a teenager, I remember being sent up an old apple tree in the garden with a bag of dried-up mistletoe berries and an old kitchen knife (my mother was full of wonderful ideas!) but it did work; no berries though as we only had one ‘blob’ of mistletoe.

Take care with your greenery choices. There is a very old tradition from the Midlands which said that holly was male and ivy female. Whichever was brought in first for Christmas would rule the house for the next year! Merry Christmas!

Early after the pandemic first struck, the District Council created a special website, www.wearehuntingdonshire.org, which is still live and is a good first guide to local help and services. The council's helpful Customer Service team are also still available on 01480 388388.

With best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2021.

Tim Alban
District Councillor for Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley Ward

The best way to contact me is by emailing tim.alban@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or calling 07913 101145.

News, view and information on local issues are available via Facebook: www.facebook.com/TimAlbanForStiltonWard

Ward Rounds

I continue to be impressed by the community spirit which is evident in the villages and hamlets I represent; from the support networks which sprung up so quickly (and still operate); to the individual acts of kindness; to the commitment of council staff and the work of local councillors. I think we can be proud of how Huntingdonshire is battling this pandemic.

Whilst Covid-19 continues to occupy a prominent place in the District Council's work, the everyday role of council staff and councillors doesn't stop. For my part, I continue to tackle many of the same issues on behalf of local residents as I do every year: planning applications, fly-tipping and wider environmental concerns in particular. In doing so I am fortunate to enjoy a good working relationship with my fellow ward District Councillor, Marge Beuttell, our County Councillor, Simon Bywater, as well as the many Parish Councillors who give so much to our local communities.