

The Billinghay Times & Advertiser



Issue No 03/20

May / June 2020

Billinghay Parish Office 01526 861845 or 07483 346143

info@billinghaypc.co.uk

Ringmoor House, Ringmoor Close, Billinghay LN4 4EY

This publication is also available on <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Billinghay/>



In an Emergency

Serious Incidents CALL **999**
Samaritans **08457 909090**
Power Cut **105**

Lincs Police **01522 532222**
Local Police **101**
Emergency Information 24/7 **0800 6783 105**

HOT OFF THE PRESS

It was thought originally that this publication would not be produced due to problems with:

- ◆ Our printers not being able to work
- ◆ Our “paper boys” being in lock down

However, the Council felt it was essential to communicate with residents and to this end have produced this online edition. We realise that not all residents will have access to the media but it was felt that this was the only way we could get the news out.

People with access to a computer will be able to view the Newsletter under the News Section of the Parish website detailed above. Alternatively, you can send a request by email to info@billinghaypc.co.uk
We will then forward a copy as an attachment (you will need to be able to download pdf documents to view this). Once we have sent you a copy, we will not be retaining your contact details.

Please bear in mind that some of the businesses advertised may not be working during this difficult period and any events still detailed may not be taking place. Please contact the Businesses/Organisers if in doubt.

A note for advertisers - we will not be charging you for this issue and will be extending the expiry date of your advert to allow for this.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Where: Ringmoor House **When:** 1st Monday of month
Time: 7.00pm (except Bank Holidays)
See Parish Notice Boards for Committee Meetings



PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Currently closed due to the present pandemic. See page 3 for contact details.

BILLINGHAY PARISH COUNCIL TEAM

Chairman: Kathryn Locke **Vice Chairman:** Tom Cassidy

Clerk: C Willingham

Parish Councillors: Ron Chatten, Antony Bell, Sheila Clark, Jim Jackson, Frankie Harvey & Alice Walters

District Council Members: Gill Ogden, Amanda Sanderson

County Council Member: Barry Young

Office Assistant & Newsletter Co-Ordinator: Lou Hird

Editor: Billingham Parish Council

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Billingham Covid-19 Mutual Aid UK group

Local organising to support the most vulnerable in our communities

Are you self-isolating? Do you need help?

If you live in village, are self-isolating and are in need of shopping or assistance, please call this number:

01522 782189

Or, alternatively, contact Richard Hilliard at:

richard@billinghambaptistchapel.co.uk

M: 07717392628

COUNCIL REPORT

Hello from Billingham Parish Council and welcome to the latest edition of the *Billingham Times*.

These are strange, uncertain and unprecedented times for us all, but in true Billingham spirit, the community has come together to support its residents and neighbouring communities, whether this be painting and displaying rainbows and teddy bears for “trails” around the village, setting up and volunteering for village and beyond initiatives to help with shopping and collecting prescriptions, or checking up on neighbours and friends at this time of need. Thank you to everyone.

As you will know the Parish Council, Bethel Baptist Church and Lincolnshire Co-op have set up a scheme for volunteers to shop for those who are in isolation or cannot get to the store for other reasons. A huge thank you must go to Sam at the Co-op for responding so swiftly to the request for support and to Richard at the Baptist Church who has done a sterling job of rounding up volunteers to cover all areas of the village as well as being out and about collecting and delivering shopping and sharing information as required.

We are all in this together, and together we will come through this and out the other side. Just remember to be kind to yourself, to stay in, and do your best to stay safe and well. Please take time to read the information about the local support that is available in this newsletter.

Although the Parish Office is closed and no face-to-face meetings are being held, to comply with government guidelines, council business is continuing as normal. The Clerk can be contacted by phone on 07483346143 or by email on billinghamypc@gmail.com on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 9.15am and 3.00pm. It is hoped that virtual meetings will take place by Zoom (as agreed at national level) so actions can be agreed, as no resolutions can be made without a meeting taking place.

In other news, the Parish Council is supporting the application for the extension of the Village Hall. The planning application can be viewed, and commented on, via the NKDC Planning Portal: www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/planningonline and entering the planning reference number (20/0429/FUL) into the search box.

Although the grass cutting contractors are not currently able to work, the Parish Council has arranged for a path to be cut around the playing field so residents and their canine companions, can enjoy a daily walk and some fresh air.

Looking ahead, the Parish Council has agreed for the outdoor play equipment (such as the climbing wall) to be brought to the village, hopefully in the summer holidays at NO COST to the young people or their families. However, this will be COVID-19 willing, so please look out for further details.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of the newsletter.

Billingham Parish Council.

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BILLINGHAY PARISH COUNCIL

PUBLIC STATEMENT

23 March 2020

Dear Residents,

*“The Parish Council recognises and agrees that no business, meeting, service provision or service delivery of the Authority is of any importance **above that** of public and personal safety. As such, all scheduled public meetings will be cancelled for an **initial 4 month period** (or as circumstances dictate)”.*

Whilst public meetings are cancelled, please be assured the Parish Council has put measures in place to ensure minimal disruption or interruption to service delivery within the community and staff cover will remain in place as necessary or until any national legislation or instruction dictates otherwise.

The Parish Council can be contacted on the numbers shown below but are unable to answer specific questions in relation to or on behalf of other local Authorities, health care providers or individual businesses within the parish.

Over the coming weeks, local self-help will be of paramount importance, and as such the Parish Council will endeavour to work with other organisations to coordinate self-help and volunteers within the community.

Should you wish to offer your help or support, please contact the Parish Council via telephone or via email: billinghampc@gmail.com

Above all the Parish Council advises people to follow the latest national or regional health advice and encourages you not put yourself or other at risk from infection.

Government Social distancing advice is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people>

Government Stay at home guidance is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Parish Council contact details:

Parish Clerk Email: billinghampc@gmail.com Phone 07483 346143 (Mon, Tues & Thursday 9.15am to 3pm)

NEWS FROM CLERKLAND.

Along with most of us, the Parish Clerk is confined to barracks. However, whilst continuing with her Parish Office work from home, she has found the time to write about the reaction to the lock down by her neighbours. Her observations are shown below:

Residents of Shire Close meet each morning at 11 o'clock (observing the social distancing guidelines) to have a few minutes 'Dancing in the Street' led by Warren and Becky who kindly provide the music. Anyone can make a request via a social media site, and it is an opportunity to wave to our neighbours further away and share a little part of the day.

Shire Close also come out at 8pm on Thursday evenings to 'clap' and can hear the other nearby streets doing the same, in support of the keyworkers and NHS. Our local postman is also supported and appreciated with post being one highlight of the day.

Over recent weeks, some of us have got to know our neighbours a little better, there is a good sense of community spirit with people helping with online shopping and other errands if required.

We have a few chalk rainbows in the street and some bears at windows in some homes. We have been lucky that we have had some lovely weather. The children were given sweets (kindly donated by Sarah) on Easter Sunday and paraded (again observing rules) bonnets for a competition.



If you have any stories of things happening in your part of Billingham we will be happy to include them in future newsletters.

Although this edition has to be online, we acknowledge how grateful we are to the team of volunteers who usually deliver the newsletter for us, and hope to get them back into action, when we are able.



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Gutter Cleaning

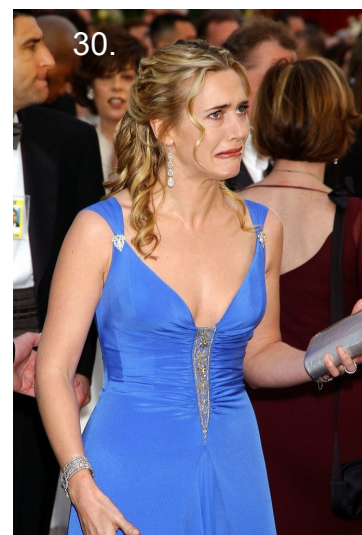
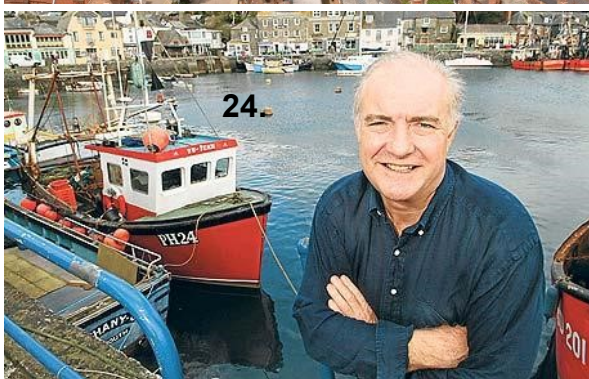
THE QUIZ

This issue will show a departure from the usual format of Quiz. Some of the regulars who attend the Quiz at the Ship on Sunday evenings have been suffering withdrawal symptoms (must be the beer) and so the Quiz below would have been the next one at the Ship.

- | NO. | QUESTION |
|-----|---|
| 1 | The leaf of which plant is said to relieve nettle stings? |
| 2 | Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto are all moons of which planet in our solar system? |
| 3 | Which fictional character uses the expression 'Eat my shorts'? |
| 4 | Port Said stands on which canal? |
| 5 | In the nursery rhyme, who journeyed to Gloucester during a period of precipitation? |
| 6 | According to Greek mythology, who opened a box out of curiosity and let out all the evils of humanity? |
| 7 | Pic - what is the connection? |
| 8 | An ortolan is what type of creature - lizard, bird or fish? |
| 9 | Austrian monk Gregor Mendel discovered the Laws of 'what'? |
| 10 | The 'Aurora Australis' is also known by what name? |
| 11 | What connects Paddington Bear with a Royal Reporter and a brand of writing paper? |
| 12 | Pic - where is this? |
| 13 | In which Andrew Lloyd Webber musical does the cast wear roller skates? |
| 14 | Which ancient Greek is known as 'The Father of Medicine'? |
| 15 | Apollo Creed, Clubber Lang and Ivan Drago are all opponents of which boxer? |
| 16 | In 1979 who had a love and it was a gas but soon turned out to be a heart of glass? |
| 17 | John and Edward Grimes, who first appeared on ITV's 2009 X Factor, are known by what name? |
| 18 | Pic - what is his character surname? |
| 19 | What does the medical acronym HIV stand for? |
| 20 | What is the capital of Ecuador? |
| 21 | Which drink is known as 'The Wine of Islam'? |
| 22 | Who does a paediatric doctor specialise in treating? |
| 23 | Apart from white, what colour are the other two 'triangles' on the BMW logo? |
| 24 | Pic - who is he? |
| 25 | In the game of darts, what score is known as 'Breakfast' or 'Bed and Breakfast'? |
| 26 | The Asian Tsunami or Boxing Day tsunami that hit Thailand, Indonesia and many other countries happened in what year 2001, 2004 or 2007? |
| 27 | In cooking, what is calamares? |
| 28 | The disease rickets is caused by the lack of which vitamin? |

- 29 Which fictional character has a set of interchangeable turnip, mangel wozel and swede heads?
- 30 Pic - who is she?
- 31 What connects the worlds first nuclear powered aircraft carrier with Captain Kirk?
- 32 A conchologist studies what?
- 33 In 1966, what were the Kinks doing after the taxman had taken all their dough?
- 34 Michael Hutchence was the lead singer in which Australian band?
- 35 Which Cadbury's chocolate bar was named after a bus?
- 36 Pic - who is he?

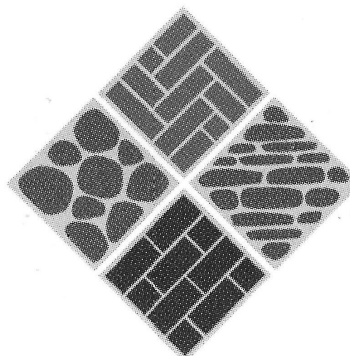
The Pictures below relate to the Questions where indicated



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BILLINGHAY VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELD

Lots of the planned events at the Village Hall have had to be put on hold like every where else.

The "100" Club

The last winner for this session drawn on April 17th was Sally Farrelly. March winner was Steve Taylor. The new session due to start in May 2020 will be delayed until November when hopefully things will be back to normal. Participants will be asked to pay £6 each to cover the draws until April 2021 when that session will end.

There will still be some numbers available for those willing to gamble £1 a month and support their Village Hall.

Contact Kate Harlow 07799617674 or Marjorie Richards 01526 860346.

Future Developments

We particularly need your continued support now as we have submitted plans for a large extension. No additions have been made to the Village Hall since it was built in the 60,s, and with the population of Billingham increasing all the time it was decided by the Committee that now would be a good time to improve what we have to offer.

The improvements will include extending the small meeting room and inviting small groups such as Scouts to use this. We could possibly then run two meetings simultaneously. The larger building will bring an increased capacity allowing larger functions to be held bringing greater viability and efficiency.

Residents wishing to see the detailed plans can view these on NKDC Planning website

<https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building/planning/planning-applications/view-an-application/>

Plan Reference No is 20/0429/FUL Billingham Village Hall & Playing Field

BILLINGHAY PARISH OFFICE NEWS



As you are aware, the Parish Office has to deal with a wide range of issues and the staff try their very best to be helpful. Varying topics are raised and we intend publishing information where we can offer help, point you in the right direction or where we need your help.

PARISH OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS:

Telephone: 01526 861845 or **07483 346143**

Email: info@billinghampc.co.uk

Address: Mrs C Willingham (Parish Clerk)
Ringmoor House, Ringmoor Close, Billingham, Lincs

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Full details of the dates for the Mobile Library visiting Billingham can be seen on Page 12. The dates will only be relevant when the service resumes. We hope to bring news on that in later issues.

BILLINGHAY MEDICAL PRACTICE:

CONTACT NO **01526 860490**

CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Please note that the defibrillator located at the Children's Centre on Fen Road is maintained by the Billingham Parish Council. If you notice any issues with the defibrillator, please contact the Parish Clerk. Access to the equipment is obtained by dialling 999 and you will then be given a code to open the case.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ([See Page 5 for current situation](#))

Please note that Parish Council Meetings will be held in the lounge at Ringmoor House and not in the Village Hall. They start at 7.00pm and there are 15 minutes at the beginning of each meeting when the members of the public can speak and raise issues they feel need addressing. **See the Events page for the exact dates of the meetings.**

WALCOTT ROAD CEMETERY

OPENING TIMES	Summer	8.00am to	8.00pm
	Winter	9.00am to	5.00pm

Welcome to your Mobile Library Service

DATES THAT WILL APPLY WHEN SERVICE RESUMES.

The timetable below shows when the mobile library will be in your area from

April 2020 – March 2021

Monday Route 2 & 4 (Rural North)

April	May	June	July	August	September
27 th	11 th *	8 th 22 nd	6 th 20 th	3 rd 17 th 31 st	14 th 28 th
October	November	December	January	February	March
12 th 26 th	9 th 23 rd	7 th 21 st	4 th 18 th	1 st 15 th	1 st 15 th 29 th

*Sorry no service on Bank Holidays

The mobile library stops at the following places:

Community	Stop	Arrive	Depart
Billinghay	Library Site	13.15	14.45
Billinghay	Spa Shop	15.00	16.00

Every effort is made to ensure the mobile library arrives at each stop on time.
For the latest news on this route, enquiries or renewals please contact the
Customer Service Centre on 01522 782010



BILLINGHAY HISTORY GROUP

DUE TO THE CURRENT CORONAVIRUS CRISIS, ALL MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED OR POSTPONED TILL A LATER DATE. HOPEFULLY IT WILL NOT BE TOO LONG BEFORE NORMAL SERVICE IS RESUMED. ADVANCE DETAILS WILL BE GIVEN OF THE NEXT PRESENTATION BY NOTE, EMAIL OR FACEBOOK.

YPF

@ the Chapel, Church Street

Every Friday

during term-time

6 - 7.30pm

Amazing Bible Stories

Craft

Quizzes

YPF is now meeting on Zoom every Friday from 6 - 7pm. We hopefully will have a similar arrangement for Light House soon.

For more information contact

Richard Hilliard

M: 07717392628

E: richard@billinghamybaptistchapel.co.uk

SPORTS

QUIZZES

*ANSWERS TO
BIG QUESTIONS*

The Light House

Learning what life is
REALLY all about

@ the Chapel, Church Street

Every Fortnight

during term time

7.45-9.15pm

Billingham Baptist Chapel

Richard Hilliard: 0771 7392628

Are you or do you know someone who is finding it difficult to manage their affairs?

If yes, then you need to find out about

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Patient

Participation

Group

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ASKmyGP

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Practice is using **ASKmyGP** to allow patients to message the surgery directly. Rather than having to wait for an appointment this system means that your medical query should be dealt with the same day (if you message on weekdays until 4pm). This service is available for all Doctor and Practitioner appointments. If you need to see a Practice Nurse or Health Care Assistant, e.g. for a long-term condition, review, injection, blood test or a smear test, please phone the surgery.

IF YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS

ASKmyGP means that you can request help from the Practice when, where and how it suits you. Enjoy feeling more in control as you ask for help securely from your smartphone, tablet or computer. Bookmark the link in your browser so you don't forget. [Access AskMyGP](#).

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS

You can contact the Practice by telephone and your request will be sent to the clinician who will contact you that day and you will be managed by phone or invited in to see the clinician. Contact us on 01526 860490.

DISPENSARY CHANGES

During this outbreak, the Dispensary is no longer accepting paper copies of prescriptions. To request your medication, please go online and order (speak with reception if you do not have an account). **If you do not have internet access**, phone the Dispensary on 01526 869806. Dispensary may not be able to answer the phone so please leave a CLEAR message with your **NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, CONTACT NUMBER and REQUEST**. If you are unable to pronounce the name of the drug you can spell it out. Your medication will be available as soon as possible but may not be within the normal 72-hour turn-around. Please **DO NOT** order medication if you have unopened boxes. Adequate supplies are available if everyone orders normally.

Patients are no longer being allowed into the Dispensary to collect medication. Please go to the side window to collect. Please have **ID** with you if you are collecting for someone else. The Practice has created a make-shift queuing system to help maintain Social Distancing (2m).

Please look at the website daily www.billinghaymedicalpractice.co.uk if you have internet access, as new information is added regularly.

Care Quality Commission (Annual Review)

The Practice was inspected in late 2016, when the rating was “Good”, but the aim is to be “Outstanding”. A telephone call with the CQC was arranged to take place late February which involved answering 19 ‘set’ questions. This was carried out by our Practice Manager and GP Partners. The outcome is that the rating remains “Good”. There will be another review in 2021.

Veteran Friendly GP Practice Accreditation

Over the next five years, NHS England and NHS Improvement, together with the Royal College of Practitioners, are rolling out the veteran friendly GP Practice accreditation scheme across England. This scheme, which is intended to help ensure Practices are best equipped to care for veterans and their families, has already accredited over 700 surgeries. Billingham Medical Practice is working towards this accreditation, and will code Patient’s records if they are a known military veteran.

Our Mental Health

The coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak means that life is changing for all of us for a while. It may cause you to feel anxious, stressed, worried, sad, bored, lonely or frustrated. It's important to remember it is OK to feel this way and that everyone reacts differently. Remember, this situation is temporary and, for most of us, these difficult feelings will pass. Please speak to someone about your worries. In the first communicate with your GP via **ASKmyGP** service, or call 01526 860490 if you do not have access to the Internet.

You can also speak with the following, as suggested by the NHS Mental Health Helpline:

MIND: 0300 123 3393 or 01636 650228. www.mind.org.uk

SAMARITANS: 116 113 (freefone). www.samaritans.org.uk

ANXIETY UK: 03444 775 774. www.anxietyuk.org.uk

SANE: 0300 304 7000. www.sane.org.uk/support

Age UK

When this pandemic is over (and it WILL pass) people may look for new activities with which to become involved, see below. Age UK also has a new initiative called “connect to support Lincolnshire” which has information and advice for all residents who are looking for support in the community. This includes information to help you manage your wellbeing and plan for your care and support needs, a provider directory with information about providers of services in and around Lincolnshire, a section on home care agencies and residential and nursing homes in the area, and an activity and events calendar. Their website is: www.lincolnshire.connectosupport.org but they can also be contacted by phone on 0300 303 8789.

Subject to the Coronavirus restrictions being lifted, future PPG meetings for 2020 will be held on Tuesday 2 June, Tuesday 1 September and Tuesday 1 December. The friendly meetings are held from 18.00-19.30 in the waiting room at the Practice. We welcome new members, so please either speak with Reception or go the Patient Participation Group on the website if you would like to join.

STAY HOME* * * * PROTECT THE NHS* * * * SAVE LIVES

Activity Centre

Timetable



For more information please contact reception at Park Street:
03455 564 144

PLEASE CONTINUE TO.....

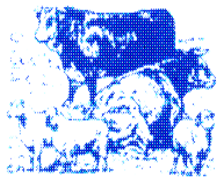


*On behalf of the PPG and patients,
a big THANK YOU to all the team at
Billinghay Medical Practice for the
brilliant organisation during these
difficult times. As usual, you have
been superb, at the same time car-
ing, courteous and kind. We are so
lucky to have you.*

Patient Participation Group

Chair: juneta.wilson@btinternet.com
Vice-chair: Sheilaclark23@yahoo.com
Secretary: jean@patman.plus.com

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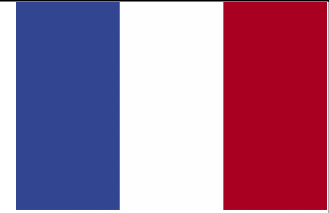
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BILLINGHAY & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION



We are sorry to report that the planned visit to our “twins” in Ballon St Mars has been postponed at present due to the current coronavirus outbreak.

Whether the visit this year takes place or not is, of course, dependent on the situation both here and in France. The current position is that the trip is now provisionally planned for October 2020.

Lets hope that this can go ahead but, by then, we may all be confined a la maison.

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Activities in Billingham

Please check with the organisation to see if the activities have been cancelled and when they will re-commence

B.A.D.ASS (Billinghay Amateur Dramatics Association)	Thursdays at the Village Hall or Ship - please call 07799617674 for info. New members always welcome
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Tuesdays 5.30-9.15pm Scout Hut Roger Miller 860539
Bethel Baptist Chapel	Sundays 10.30am & 6pm Tuesdays 7pm Pastor James Mansfield 861439
Billinghay CEP School	Breakfast Club 8 to 9am Every School day in School Hall
Billinghay Tuesday Club	1 st Tuesday of the month 7.30pm Pam Lupton 860106
Bowls Club	Indoor Bowls start September every Monday
British Legion	Contact Dawn Studd, Branch Secretary for details of membership and meetings on 01526 268671
Brownies (2nd Billingham)	Wednesdays 5.30 to 7.00pm Dawn Tulley 834324
Children's Centre	Fen Road 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday 869248 or 869271
Coffee Morning	3rd Monday of month 10-12 Baptist Chapel, Ann Hall 01205 365689
Community Rooms	Bookings Jayne Pannell 01526 861382
Daisy Chain	Pre-school Mon-Fri 9.00am to 3.00pm Billingham CofE School 07799 091281
Darby & Joan	Tuesdays (every 4 weeks) 2-5pm Shirley 860732
Girl Guides	Wednesdays 6.45pm Contact Emma 07557354981
Lighthouse Youth Club	Now meeting via Zoom - every Friday at 6.00 to 7.00pm Contact Richard on 07717392628 or email richard@billinghaybaptistchapel.co.uk
Line Dancing	Thursdays 6.00pm to 8.00pm Walcott Village Hall
Methodist Church	Bookings Sally Robinson 860930 Caretaker 860682 Schoolroom available with kitchen facilities £15 for 3 hours
Methodist Church	Sundays 10am Val 860614,
Night Owls Book Club	4th Tuesday of month Kylie Cozens
Past Times	History Group The Ship Inn as advertised Lou Hird 869086
Rainbows (Girls 5 to 7)	Tuesdays (Term Time) 5.30pm to 6.30pm Karen 01526 860715 Mobile 07812207929
Scout Group	1 st Billingham Roger Miller (Scout Leader) 860539
St Michael's and All Angels Church	1st/2nd Sundays 9.30am Morning Prayer 3rd Sunday 9.30am Communion 4th Sunday 11.00am Said Communion 5th Sunday United Service - please ring to check place of worship. Church open from 9.00am to 3.00pm weekdays Contact: Reverend Steve Holt 01526 580654 Gwen Tonge 01526 860330
Tennis Club	Contact Tina or Mick on 860069 or brommell@hotmail.com
Tuesday Club	First Tuesday every month 7.30pm Community Rooms
Twinning Association	Chairman John Toulson 01526 860262 Secretary Megan Clark (meganclark@hotmail.co.uk) Website www.bdta.eu.
Village Hall	Bookings June Davies 861652
Voluntary Car Service	Office Hours 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Thursday and 10.00am to 1.00pm Friday Tel 01507 609535 (also 24hr Emergency)
YPF Children's Club	Now meeting via Zoom - every Friday at 6.00 to 7.00pm Contact Richard on 07717392628 or email richard@billinghaybaptistchapel.co.uk



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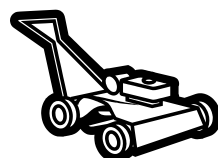
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LETTER PAGE

If you wish to reply to any views expressed in these letters or wish to get anything else 'off your chest' , please write to LOU`S LIVELY LETTER PAGE or e-mail Carol_Willingham@n-kesteven.gov.uk or post it through the Parish Office letter box by the 2nd December 2018.

Please note that the views expressed in the letters pages do not necessarily reflect those of the Parish Council and are only published where the Name and Address of the Contributor is given (but not necessarily published - we will pass on correspondence where applicable).

In spite of the current National crisis we have received our usual contribution from our Skirth Road resident this month and this centres on one of his many sporting activities

Quite a long time after the the passing of my mother's death had left me living alone in the bungalow that I had shared with her I decided it was time to have a look in all of the cupboards and wardrobes and nooks and crannies that I had hitherto not seen the need to venture into. Immediately after her death I cleared her main wardrobe and drawers of clothes but did little else, It was clear that Mother also did very little downsizing after my fathers death and many of his possessions were still around the place, Hidden in the back of the cupboard I found a carrier bag and this contained a cylindrical leather case that aroused my interest. Opening it up I came across my dad's set of 2 bowls woods. I was talking about this at a church coffee morning and it was suggested that I could donate them to Walcott Short Mat Bowls Club which met on a Monday night in the village hall. I decided to do this on a Monday soon after and on walking down the drive I thought that I could stay and play that evening before giving away my bowls. I did not expect to be any good partly because I had not played before and also because my woods were not very good. I knew this because I remember asking my father every week when he came back from bowls if he had won to be invariably told that he had lost but that was only because his woods did not have as good a bias as everyone else's and were not heavy enough. I remember asking mum why he did not get some better ones and she said that there were two reasons. One was that he did not like spending money and the other was he would not want the problem of thinking up another excuse when he continued to lose every week.

I arrived at the Walcott Village Hall on a Monday evening and was warmly welcomed as is the case at all clubs where extra fees are needed to pay the rent. The intricacies of short mat bowls were explained to me. A piece of wood in the middle you have to bowl around and a line drawn across the mat that you have to cross for the bowl to count, I was shown which way round to hold my bowl to get it to bend in the correct manner and I set off and delivered my first bowl towards the jack (the little yellow ball at the other end of the mat that you have to get near to) and hit the wood in the middle. Oy next go I went a bit wider and my bowl bid not turn at all but careered straight off the mat into the wall. On the next end I decided to bowl the other side of the wood (backhand) and promptly hit the wood again, A slight adjustment for my second bowl meant that it again careered off the side of the mat. My dad was right "THESE BOWLS ARE USELESS"

I decided to carry on in future weeks and try and improve and when my accuracy improved my next problem was power (technically known as weight). Despite being fairly straight very few of my bowls counted as they were always short of the line or shot straight over the end of the mat. After many weeks I improved this aspect of the game as

well and was confident that most of my bowls would finish in the required area of the mat. I was no longer a complete liability so I began to think a little bit more about tactics and where precisely my bowls should go in order to help my team win the end. To win the end you have to have your bowls nearer to the jack than the opponents have when all the bowls have been bowled but at Walcott the trick is to persuade your opponents that your bowls are nearer and I began to realise that this was an art form. If you are quick a confident and authoritative "That's the nearest" spoken simultaneously as you pick up one of your team's bowls before anybody else realises what is going on may do the trick. Often this is not possible as there are several players clustered around the bowls as the final bowl is delivered. I had seen on TV that when there is doubt about which bowl is the nearest the referee comes on with a special measuring tool (a piece of string encased in plastic) and every short mat bowls club has one. However as the evening is only fun and the result is not important it is not worth getting this out and wasting the 30-45 seconds that it takes to measure so half a dozen bowlers will discuss it for two or three minutes and then measure after that if they cannot agree. I have a suspicion that the time wasting argument is a red herring and the real reason for attempting to forgo the measuring instrument is that many club bowlers are of an age when if they get down to measure it they may find it hard to get up.

One's improvement at the game can obviously be gauged by where you are able to land your bowls but there is another way, which is the reaction of your fellow bowlers when you make a complete hash of a shot. A beginner who crashes his bowl into the central wooden plank will receive encouraging comments such as "bad luck" or "nearly" or "it only hit the end of the wood". A more competent player who hits the wood will see that no-one is looking at him. His own team trying to hide their annoyance and the opposition trying to hide a smirk. However when you roll a ball into the central plank and the whole room guffaws you know that you are really rated as a bowler.



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WHAT'S ON IN BILLINGHAY

DARBY & JOAN CLUB

All meetings and the Jumble Sale have been cancelled until further notice.

Contact Details: Shirley on 860732 or Mobile 07903008308

BILLINGHAY TUESDAY CLUB

BINGO

METHODIST CHURCH LENDING LIBRARY

GENERAL

Well, this has been a term of two halves, through March all three sections carried on with our usual program of fun and adventure. Then the Corona virus hit and we had to work out a way of continuing our Scouting without actually meeting.

All three sections started this term on Shrove Tuesday (or Thursday for Scouts) by making pancakes, the Cubs and Beavers both made traditional pancakes and tried various toppings, whereas the Scouts were slightly more adventurous and made Scotch Pancakes and American pancakes as well as the traditional pancakes. Over the next couple of weeks the Beavers and Cubs looked at how to keep healthy, the Beavers investigated what happens to their pulse rate when they exercise, and the Cubs looked at how the human body works and how to keep it healthy. They also spent an evening finding out about the planets in our solar system.



The Scouts meanwhile were preparing for their annual competition hike by practising their map reading and first aid skills. This year we managed to enter two teams for the hike and both teams did really well coming in 11th and 14th. All the Scouts who took part had a great day. Sadly the hike was the last Scouting Activity we managed before 'lockdown'. Since then I have been setting challenges for the Beavers Cubs and Scouts to do at home, and we have had one or two who have managed to gain badges at home.

As our usual St George's Day Parade in Sleaford did not take place this year the District invited all the Young People and Leaders to renew their promise at 20.20 on April 23rd immediately after the clap for carers.

Hopefully, it will not be too long before we are all back meeting together and enjoying each other's company.

If you know of any child aged between 6 and 14 years who would like to come along and join in the fun, or if there are any adults who are willing to help out at all, please contact myself on 01526 869141 or Roger on 07831 264554 for more details.



We Need Your Help

We need some new Leaders to run our busy Beaver Colony and Cub Pack. The Beavers Cubs and Scouts are currently run by just three or four adults, this is not sustainable in the long term, and if we cannot recruit more adults then sadly the Beavers and Cubs will have to close in September.

If you feel able to give up 2 hours a week and maybe a couple of weekends a year to help, then please get in touch.

Don't worry if you think you don't know enough about 'Scouting' as we will organise some training for you, and the existing leaders will be happy to help you get started. The more adults we can get involved the more we will be able to help our young people.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact

Roger 07831264554

Penny 07962586832



Given the recent uncertainty, we appreciate that many people will be concerned about the resulting impact on their pensions and investments.

Since 1st April and until further notice F H Manning Financial Services are providing telephone appointment slots for those in Lincolnshire who do not currently have an adviser but would like to discuss their savings in further detail.

There will be no charge for this service as advice will not be provided, only factual information and hopefully reassurance to those in need.

If you or someone you know would like to book a slot, please contact me on clm@fhmanning.co.uk or ring me on 07511 156440.

Alternatively, if you do not want a phone call but you would like to receive market updates via email, simply contact me as above. In addition, you can find our most recent newsletter and blog posts, including a special edition newsletter providing details of the current support available to businesses and individuals, on our website:

<https://www.fhmanning.co.uk/news-insights>



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THE QUIZ MAR/APR 2020 ANSWERS



The answers to the clues below are YES or NO

1. Is a jellyfish a fish?
2. Did the 30 years War last 30 years?
3. Did Chinese Crackers originate in China?
4. Did the Spanish Inquisition originate in Spain?
5. Is a black bean a bean?
6. Is a peanut a nut?
7. Is a shooting star a star?
8. Is a white rhino white?
9. Does horsehair come from horses?
10. Are refried beans fried more than once?

The answers are as below:

Answers to March/April Quiz:

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 1. No | 2. Yes |
| 3. No | 4. Yes |
| 5. Yes | 6. No |
| 7. No | 8. No |
| 9. Yes | 10. No |

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B.A.D.ASS Pantomime

I turned up at Billingham Village Hall in February for the Sunday afternoon performance of Mother Goose expecting from previous experience to be amused and entertained and I was not to be disappointed. The hall was virtually full as it had been for the two Saturday performances and I am sure that that will continue to be the case for future years.

The usual performers were there putting in excellent performances and Katie Harlow showed that she does not need to have a speaking part to show her talent as she honked effectively and with panache throughout the show.

The Pantomime contained the usual array of songs and slapstick including the usual attempt to wallpaper a room that involves people getting messed up. As I have seen this many seen many times it has to be done exceptionally well or with great innovation to make me laugh and on this occasion it wasn't. However I will remember two excellent comic pieces. One was a very amusing performance of a cuckoo clock (Jonathan Wilcox) and also Baron von Rumpensmakka (Lee Davis) and Gonk (Stephen Taylor) attempting to ride geese and their attempts to control wayward birds put me in mind of Rod Hull and Emu. Lee showed great comic timing and expression at times that reminded me of Hugh Laurie. He was not quite as convincing as an evil landlord. Maybe he is just too nice a guy to be a convincing villain.

The star of the show for me and may others I have spoken to was Alyss Casement who gave a brilliant performance as Smorg the troll. There were other very confident performances from other enthusiastic juniors who performed with enthusiasm and this bodes well for the future. The whole weekend was another success for BADASS and with three almost full houses they again raised money for the benefit of one or more good causes in the village. I left venue as on previous occasions looking forward to the next production.

Theatre Correspondent

BILLINGHAY DIARY OF EVENTS

Due to the current coronavirus crisis we are not publicising any events as we cannot be sure whether they will take place. As soon as the situation returns to normal, we will be resuming the publication of dates for current and future events.

REGULAR MEETINGS

The dates and start times for each such Group are given below:

Please check with the organisation to see if the activities have been cancelled and when they will re-commence

B.A.D.ASS	Thursdays	7.00pm Ship or Village Hall Phone Kate 07799617674 for info
Beavers/Cubs & Scouts	Tuesdays	5.30 to 9.15pm
Bingo	Monday	1.30pm The Whyche
Bowls (Indoor)	Monday	2.00 to 4.00pm Village Hall
British Legion (Men)	1st Wednesday every 2 months	Ship Inn 7.30pm
Brownies	Wednesdays	5.30 to 7.00pm
Car Boot Sale	Sunday am	Coach & Horses Field
Coffee Morning	Thursday	10.00 to 12.00 Community Rooms
Community Plan	3rd Wednesday of month	7.00pm Coach & Horses
Community Connections Cafe	Look for announcements	Methodist Church Hall
Football Club	Saturdays	10.30 to 11.30am Junior Training Sessions
Girl Guides	Wednesday	6.45 to 8.30pm
Keep Fit	Tuesdays	6.30 to 7.30pm Village Hall
Lighthouse Club (Secondary School Children)	Fridays	6.00 to 7.00pm via Zoom
Market & Car Boot Sale	Sunday	From 6.30am Coach & Horses
Methodist Lending Library	2nd Tuesday of each month	2.00 to 3.30pm
Mobile Library	Alternate Mondays - see Parish Office page for details	
Night Owls Book Club	3rd Tuesday of each month	
Rainbows	Tuesdays	5.30 to 6.30pm
Saturday Market	Saturday	Community Hall 9.30 to Noon 14 Mar, 18 April, 16 May, 20 June, 18 July, 15 August, 19 September, 17 October, 14 November, December t.b.a
YPF Children's Club	Fridays	6.00 to 7.00pm Via Zoom
Youth Club	Every Monday	Village Hall

BYGONES

We are indebted to Ian King for supplying a plethora of old photographs for use in this section of the Newsletter. This will enable people reading the Newsletter to spend a few hours of their current confinement to the home, identifying the people in the photos. Apologies to newer residents as they will miss out on the fun. Both photos relate to Billingham Guides from a few years ago (dare not publish exact years for fear of retribution).



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Thursday		4.30 - 7.30pm
Friday	11.30am - 1.30pm	4.30 - 8.00pm
Saturday	11.30am - 1.30pm	4.30 - 7.30pm



LOOK OUT FOR OUR TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY SPECIAL OFFERS

NEXT ISSUE July/August 2020 – DEADLINE DATE – 10 July