

The Billinghay Times & Advertiser

bpc | Billinghay
Parish
Council

Issue No 01/21

January/February 2021

Billinghay Parish Office 01526 861845 or 07483 346143

info@billinghaypc.co.uk

Ringmoor House, Ringmoor Close, Billinghay LN4 4EY



In an Emergency

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

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



HAPPY NEW YEAR

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: Tom Cassidy **Vice Chairman:** To be appointed

Clerk: Carol Willingham

Parish Councillors: Kathryn Locke, Andy Catlett, Antony Bell, Terry Waters, 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

BILLINGHAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Dear Residents

Billingham Parish Council hope you enjoyed a peaceful Christmas and wish you all a happy and healthy 2021.

The end of the year was a busy time for the Council. The Clerk and Cllr Catlett laid wreaths at the War Memorial at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in remembrance of Armistice Day.



At the finance meeting held on 16 November 2020 community grant funding was awarded to the following well deserving village groups:

- Billingham Athletic Junior Football Club - £497.45 (for equipment)
- 1st Billingham Scout Group - £459 90 (for camping equipment)
- Billingham Village Hall & Playing Field Committee - £1,000 (towards expected building costs for building regulations)
- Billingham and District Community Pool - £3886 (flooring and floor preparation)
- Billingham Bowls Club - £650 (preparation of the green and insurance.)

Although BPC does not normally award funding for running costs, in 2020 the Council was keen to support groups to ensure they remained active and available for the community to enjoy.

Cllr Locke resigned as Chairman of the Council in December due to work and other commitments, but remains an active member of the team.

2021 is going to be a busy year with reviews of the Neighbourhood Plan, Emergency Plan and the Billingham Times to be undertaken. If you have an ideas, suggestions or comments or would like to be involved in any way, please let the Clerk know.

The Parish Office remains closed with staff working from home, and all training and meetings being held remotely. Details of council and committee meetings are displayed on the notice-board and the public and press are always welcome to attend.

As always, if you are aware of any issues around the village, have any suggestions for ways to improve village life, or would like to attend a remote meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the Council. The Clerk can be contacted by phone on 07483346143 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9.15am and 3.00pm, or by email on billinghamypc@gmail.com

Information on parish matters, local news and Covid-19 updates can be found on the Parish Council Facebook page: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Billinghay-Parish-Council-685279794963740/>

Stay safe and stay well.

Billingham Parish Council.



As you may be aware the Speed Watch Scheme has now been in operation for over a year now.

The results of the checks are collated centrally and we have received full details of the ones relating to Billingham.

These are detailed below. Offending vehicles are defined as those exceeding 35mph within the 30 mph limit

LOCATION	TOTAL HOURS OF CHECKING	TOTAL NO OF VEHICLES CHECKED	TOTAL NO OF OFFENDING VEHICLES
Walcott Road / Carre Square	71.01	30171	1536 (5.1%)
Walcott Road / Mill Lane	3.00	544	26 (4.8%)

Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds.

MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Training sessions can be arranged for new volunteers. With more volunteers we would be able to be out more frequently or for longer. Contact the Parish Office if you can help.

All the group is about is re-educating motorists to take care when driving through the village. Speedwatch activity is not about interfering with neighbours' behaviour; it is a proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in the community.

INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

View from Skirth Road - Organist clarification

In the last issue I wrote

“.....when out walking I met and chatted to a lady who told me that her local church organist had broken the singing guidelines and held a choir practice in the village church to see if the organ worked”

I would like to clarify that the church referred to was local to where the lady lived and does not in any way refer to Billingham or any of the Car Dyke parishes.

The Parish Council apologise to anyone who thought the comment related to Billingham and were upset by this.

Several residents have asked that details of planning applications affecting the village be given in the Newsletter and so we are detailing recent ones below:

Planning Applications:

20/0142/OUT 69 Walcott Road demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 new dormer bungalows.

20/1245/FUL Tegan Harrison Place Tattershall Bridge: Demolition of existing workshop/garage/office/store and erection of one dwelling and garage. Councillors had no objections.

20/1490/VARCON 76 High Street Billingham Lincs LN4 4ED Variation of condition 4 (approved plans) re permission to 20/0557/OUT

20/1403/OUT Land off Park Lane erection of 29 Dwellings - Council will be submitting comments.

20/1439/HOUS 7 King Street garage conversion to living space and erection of new double garage.

20/1489/FUL 69 Walcott Road demolition of existing bungalow 1 single storey bungalow.

Approved Applications:

20/0877/HOUS 78 Skirth Road Billingham

Proposed dropped kerb and hardstanding at the front of property (Retrospective)

POPPY MASKS

Chris Marshall and Donna Cottrell would like to thank everyone who bought Poppy Masks and helped to raise £210 for the Billingham Royal British Legion.

The Billingham Royal British Legion would like to thank Chris and Donna for the donation of the proceeds from the sale of their hand made poppy masks - **Michael Smith**



CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL

As mentioned earlier, Councillor Locke has resigned as Chair of the Council. Councillor Cassidy has been elected as the new chair. Set out below are a few details so that residents have details of his background and aims for the future.

Tom Cassidy - New Chairman of Billingham Parish Council



My wife Jan and I moved to Billingham in January 2016. We wanted to live in the countryside and change our life-style.

We have loved living in the village and after 9 months of travelling to Hatfield where I worked at Ocado, I decided to retire early.

I joined the Council two years ago as I wanted to be a part of the community. Since joining, I was listening to other residents about the vehicles speeding through the village, so I set up the Community Speed Watch with the help of the Council and Nic Woolerton, PCSO. The scheme has had some good results – details of which are given on page 5 of this Newsletter.

I also sit on a number of committees that allow us to become more proactive within the Community. The Covid 19 pandemic has slowed down our efforts but we will bounce back when safe to do so.

I am taking over from Kathryn Locke who has resigned as Chairman but will still be a Councillor which is really good news, as Kathryn is so passionate about Billingham and the community. She has been a brilliant chairman and I hope I can be as good as she was.

Retiring Chair



The Council and Staff would like to express their thanks to Kathryn for the hard work and commitment to the village.

Throughout her tenure she has tried to do what is best for our village. Without her, it is doubtful that the Community Plan would have been completed with the safeguards that it contains for future development..

She was also a prime mover in the setting up of the Billingham Community Group and will, no doubt, be involved in their future events. The Community Garden is just one example of their projects.

It is pleasing that she is remaining as a Councillor and, hopefully, she will have a little bit more spare time now she has relinquished the Chair.

Thank you Kathryn

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Due to the ever changing requirements related to the current pandemic, it is not possible at this time to give any indication of possible opening times. At present, the Ship is providing a takeaway food service.

Currently, takeaway meals are available:

Friday & Saturday Nights	5.00 to 8.00pm
Sunday Lunch	12.00 to 2.00pm

Meals must be pre-ordered and collected. In view of demand, it is suggested that you order as early as possible as collection slots are allocated when ordering.

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Gutter Cleaning

BILLINGHAY COMMUNITY GROUP

Some time ago Billingham Community Group commissioned plans to create a Community Garden at Ringmoor House, Funds were received as a grant from the Lincoln Co-operative Society (Billinghay) and a small amount of preparatory work was done by willing volunteers.

However the current pandemic made further work difficult to arrange but finally, the work has begun. - see the photographs below which show the progress that had been achieved.

Hopefully the garden will be ready for residents to make full use of when the current crisis is over.



Help us keep Lincolnshire safe

1

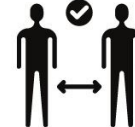
Follow Government guidelines:



Wash hands



Cover face



Make space

2

Get a test if you have:



High temperature



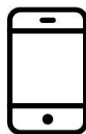
New continuous cough



Change in sense of
smell or taste

3

Book a test via:



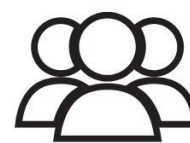
www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119

4

If you have symptoms or test positive:



Stay home for 10 days



Other members of your household
should stay home for 14 days

We're here to help - call us on 01522 782189 or visit
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/requesthelp

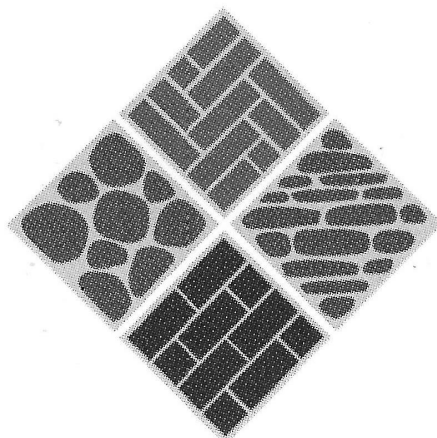
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BILLINGHAY PARISH OFFICE NEWS



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@billinghaypc.co.uk
Address: Mrs C Willingham (Parish Clerk)
Ringmoor House, Ringmoor Close, Billinghay, Lincs

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Full details of the dates for the Mobile Library visiting Billinghay can be seen on Page 10. 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 Billinghay 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

The Parish Office remains closed with staff working from home, and all training and meetings being held remotely. If you are aware of any issues around the village, have any suggestions for ways to improve village life, or would like to attend a remote meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the Council.

WALCOTT ROAD CEMETERY

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

Welcome to your Mobile Library Service

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.

LOCAL POLICE NEWS

Sleaford Rural North Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)

YOUR LOCAL NPT



PC 569 Martin Derbyshire - 07973846880
PCSO 2236 Nic Woolerton - 07973842786
PCSO 2019 Colin Ironmonger - 07973845622

sleafordruralnorth.npt@lincs.pnn.police

FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

Come along and speak with one of the team about local issues or for help and advice.

Postponed due to COVID- 19

Engagement dates will be updated when social distancing rules allow us to undertake the engagements again.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Crime statistics for your neighbourhood are available at: www.police.uk

A new app and website called Nextdoor is a great way of getting the latest relevant information for your area. Join at:
www.nextdoor.co.uk

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Warrants:

Sleaford NPT has been involved in carrying out a number of warrants in the rural villages over the past few months.

Large cannabis grows were found at North Kyme and Billinghay.

Approximately 4000 plants were seized and 11 persons arrested as a result from both cannabis grows.

Speedwatch Groups:

A number of rural villages are now joining the Community Speed Watch (CSW) Scheme.

The CSW is a scheme to allow trained volunteers to address speed concerns in their communities. Sleaford rural NPT have been training up volunteers and carrying out speed checks in the villages. Some groups have had the NPT accompany them in the roadside sessions.

The schemes report the details of speeding vehicles in specific areas where speed is of concern. The scheme also allows the public to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their neighbourhood.

If your village is interested in joining the scheme please contact me on the number or email on this newsletter.

OUR PRIORITIES THIS QUARTER- Winter 2020

Every three months, we listen to your concerns and look at recent crime statistics to shape the things we will concentrate on for the next three months. Based on this, our priorities for the next quarter are:

1. Harecoursing - Operation Galileo- Rural locations

If you think there is an issue we should be focusing on, please get in touch at one of our public engagement events or contact us by email or social media.



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Facebook - Sleaford Police

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BILLINGHAY MEDICAL PRACTICE

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.

**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.....

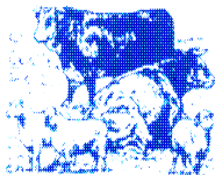


*On behalf of the PPG and patients,
a big THANK YOU to all the team at
Billinghay Medical Practice for the
brilliant organisation during these
difficult times. As usual, you have
been superb, at the same time car-
ing, courteous and kind. We are so
lucky to have you.*

Patient Participation Group

Chair: juneta.wilson@btinternet.com

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BILLINGHAY CHILDRENS CENTRE - UPDATE

Further to recent questions on the status of Lincolnshire Children's Centres. We currently have 29 children's centres open and these are offering much needed Midwifery and Health Visiting appointments to families, however we understand that families are missing our group based play and learning sessions. Because every centre is different we are currently working on how we can offer some sessions safely and in line with the guidance. Until then we wanted to remind you that our commissioned provider Early Years Alliance continue to deliver a full virtual programme, advertised on our Children's Centre Facebook pages, that will support your child's development and learning.



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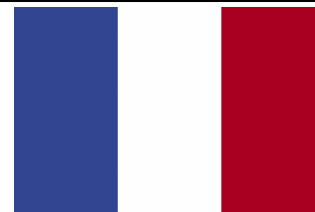
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BILLINGHAY & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION



The plans for future trips are, of course, dependent on the situation both here and in France. The current position is that our next visit is now planned for 28 May to the 2 June 2021.

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

WAYNE MARKHAM PLASTERING & ELECTRICAL

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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 Bethel Baptist Chapel	Tuesdays 5.30-9.15pm Scout Hut Roger Miller 860539 Sundays 10.30am & 6pm Tuesdays 7pm Pastor James Mansfield 861439
Billinghay CEP School Billinghay Tuesday Club Bowls Club British Legion	Breakfast Club 8 to 9am Every School day in School Hall 1st Tuesday of the month 7.30pm Pam Lupton 860106 Indoor Bowls start September every Monday Contact Dawn Studd, Branch Secretary for details of membership and meetings on 01526 268671
Brownies (2nd Billingham) Children's Centre Coffee Morning	Wednesdays 5.30 to 7.00pm Dawn Tulley 834324 Fen Road 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday 869248 or 869271 3rd Monday of month 10-12 Baptist Chapel, Ann Hall 01205 365689
Community Rooms Daisy Chain	Bookings Jayne Pannell 01526 861382 Pre-school Mon-Fri 9.00am to 3.00pm Billingham CofE School 07799 091281
Darby & Joan Girl Guides	Tuesdays (every 4 weeks) 2-5pm Shirley 860732 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 Methodist Church	Thursdays 6.00pm to 8.00pm Walcott Village Hall Bookings Sally Robinson 860930 Caretaker 860682 Schoolroom available with kitchen facilities £15 for 3 hours
Methodist Church Night Owls Book Club Past Times	Sundays 10am Val 860614, 4th Tuesday of month Kylie Cozens 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 1st Billingham Roger Miller (Scout Leader) 860539
Scout Group 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 Tuesday Club Twinning Association	Contact Tina or Mick on 860069 or brommell@hotmail.com First Tuesday every month 7.30pm Community Rooms Chairman John Toulson 01526 860262 Secretary Megan Clark (meganclark@hotmail.co.uk) Website www.bdta.eu. Bookings June Davies 861652
Village Hall 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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WILL THE BILLINGHAY BOYS PLEASE STAY BEHIND

Mick Wright or "Wrighty" as he was known was a well known character in Billingham and served as a hard working Councillor for Billingham Parish Council.

Over a period of many years, Mick gave a lot of time to research the lives of Billingham people who served in both World Wars. It was a project that was very dear to him and provides an insight of interest to many local families. During this time he made trips to the battlefields to visit as many graves of the fallen as he could.

He had hoped to put his research into a book for publication but never felt it was fully complete. Unfortunately, Mick passed away before his work came to fruition. He did, however, pass copies of his research to the Parish Council and it is split into two volumes:

- A volume detailing the involvement of Billingham people during the conflicts
- A volume giving details of individuals and the role they played

We felt that the years of hard work that had gone into production of this research were worthy of publication and it is our intention of serialising Part One in forthcoming issues of the Newsletter starting below. Specific individual details can be given to relatives who may request them via the Parish Office.

FOREWORD

The idea for this book came to me when I was visiting the World War One Battlefields and cemeteries in Northern France with my late wife.

The first cemetery we visited was near Hazebrouck about 30 miles east of Calais and while looking through the register we came across the name of Ernest Gosling of Thorpe Ginley (sic), late of Blankney Fen. Ernest was Private 40388, 4th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment. He died on 21st April 1918 aged 21 years. He is buried in La Kreule Military Cemetery, Hazebrouck. On our return home we searched the local memorials and were unable to find his name on any of them and it saddened me to think that he was a forgotten man in his own country.

However, I have been able to discover that Ernest was born in Metheringham c1896 and was the son of John B. and Elizabeth Gosling. In 1901 they were living in Blankney Fen where John was an agricultural labourer. They had two other children William B. born c1896 and John G. born 1900. Also living in Blankney Fen were William and Anne Gosling both 65 in 1901 who may well have been Ernest's grandparents.

At that time, I did nothing further but after the death of my wife I visited France with Jim South of Billingham, who wished to visit his great uncle's grave. The cemetery is situated in the small hamlet of Amerval to the east of Cambrai. It is so small that it is not even mentioned in the index of the Michelin Road Atlas. To reach it means driving up a cart track followed by a section bone shaking section of paving and then up another cart track. It would only have been discovered by accident and I realised that the men buried there were for the most part forgotten. Incidentally, Charles South is buried next to Sidney A Sharpe who is commemorated on the Sleaford War Memorial.

The next spur was my neighbour Ray Ward whose Uncle Robert died on the Somme in July 1916. He asked me to take him to Thiepval where his Uncle is listed as one of the 73,000 missing men commemorated on the huge memorial there. As a Christmas present for him I produced a small booklet detailing the last hours of his uncle's life with the

7th Battalion, the Lincolnshire Regiment. On a subsequent visit I was able to walk him along the route his uncle took on his last day alive and into the field across which he made his last attack and was able to tell him that somewhere in the area over which he was looking his uncle had died. It was a very moving moment for both of us.

Only a few months a body was in a wood at the end of that very field and although it was not Ray's uncle, it was a same regiment and did at least confirm that what I had told him was in essence correct. Looking back, I think that was the moment when I made up my mind that the thirty-nine men and one woman whose names were inscribed on the Billingham War Memorial deserved than just cold names carved in stone.

My first thought was simply to record some details before all memory of them faded. I knew that it would be a difficult as it was over eighty years since the end of the First World War and there would be little or no chance of finding anyone with first-hand knowledge of any of the names, but I was determined to find at least some details of all of them.

My starting point was the records of the Commonwealth War Graves and I did obtain a great deal of information there which then led to further inquiries. But I also came up against difficulties. The spellings of the names or the initials of the names recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, on the War Memorial and on the Register of Service in the church were not always accurate. It took a certain amount of imagination and invention to track them down and even then, there was some doubt as to the correct versions. I am sure that as soon as I think I have the correct names someone will tell me something different.

I also found out that not all the men from the Parish were recorded and are on other memorials or were on no memorial but I decided to make my starting point the Register of Honour of all those who served in the First World War which hangs in the Parish church.

Another difficulty was that when even the older members of the community spoke to me about their relatives, I did not get a lot of information as it would seem that many of those who did return were very reluctant were very reluctant to talk about their experiences. It became that no one who had been in the fighting had been unchanged by the experience and that the anti-war sentiments in the thirties were probably a result of this. Furthermore, memories play strange tricks and some stories were told me that I subsequently found untrue but I have included them nevertheless with a qualifier as they may in fact have had some basis in fact.

The death rate was one in five of Billingham men who served in World War One and it would seem that this village was unlucky as the average death rate through the British Army was one in eight. However, this was not the true cost. Hidden among the names of those who returned were further casualties. Bill Bailey lost the lower part of his right arm. Harold Hilton a great friend of Bill's, lost his left arm and never came to terms with his injury. He later hanged himself in one of the outbuildings of the Coach and Horses public house. Charles Creasey was gassed and discharged as medically unfit. Richard Bee the brother of Harold Bee had been a member of a Lewis Gun Team and was badly wounded in both forearms. He was in hospital for over a year unable to feed himself and, when he came home, wore a pair of leather gauntlets even in hot weather because due to bad circulation his arms and hands were always cold. He later received a disability pension of 7/6d (37.5p) per week.

When talking to my mother about this I also found out that my own great uncle Claude Randall MM, who I remember as a dapper little man had a hole in his left leg the size of an egg which never healed and he received treatment for until the day he died.

Joe Vickers brother of Walter Vickers (see below) was twice wounded but survived to work in Robinson's saddlers shop until well into his eighties. There may have been many others whose lives were irrevocably changed but whose stories will unfortunately remain untold.

There were many other pieces of information which people did not consider important but which all showed the experiences of war for the ordinary soldier. They come to light at odd times but I have had great difficulty in convincing people of their importance. For example, Jim South told me that Bill Bailey helped to carry wounded to the aid station even though his own left arm was shattered. He also refused to have his arm amputated in France but it was not until when, he was back in England he was told that if the operation were not performed that he would die, that he consented.

There was the story of John Harrod who was wounded and one of the stretcher bearers who collected him on the battlefield was Fred Skinns from the village of Walcott just down the road from Billingham. There must have been many more which showed the experiences of the ordinary soldier and I would have liked to include them in this book but unfortunately have been lost forever.

The Billingham War Memorial stands in the Market place on the site of the village pump. In 1905 preparations had been made to clean out the well. The job had almost been completed when at 3.45 a.m. on Sunday morning it collapsed leaving a hole in the road fifteen to twenty feet in diameter and six feet deep. The War Memorial was created on the site sometime in the early nineteen twenties.

The book started out as a pure compilation of facts but I realised it would be very dull if it were presented that way. It was Sue Pittendreigh who solved the problem when she suggested that I should make it form part of a short history of the two World Wars or at least the parts that concerned the Billingham Boys. I am no historian but have done my best to write a short outline and hope I will be forgiven for any factual inaccuracies.

Please remember that this is meant as a tribute to the people of my village who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and also to all the those from villages around the world who were led to the slaughter.

The title of the book has an interesting history. When I attended the local Grammar School there were occasions when in the morning assembly when the Headmaster would announce "Would the Billingham boys please stay behind." Usually this was because of some bad behaviour on the bus home the previous evening. The phrase became a catch phrase during riotous nights in the local public houses. I could think of no better title for this book. So here they are, and I am sure that Nurse Nellie Wilson would not mind being included, the Billingham boys who did indeed stay behind.

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

Billingham has 4 parish councillor vacancies. Therefore, if you:

- are looking to do something rewarding
- care about our community
- want to make a difference
- wish to represent our residents

then we would like to hear from you!

Parish Councillors are volunteers who give up their time to represent their community; manage buildings and community spaces; decide finances to deliver services; influence and shape development policies for the parish; comment on Parish planning applications; improve the quality of life and the environment in their local area; work to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents; work to bring about improvements through local projects; lobby other service providers; work in partnership with other parishes and agencies, and, most importantly, work with the community and residents they serve.

Although unpaid, training is provided, and expenses can be claimed in certain circumstances.

For further information, eligibility criteria, and an application form, please contact Mrs Carol Willingham, Clerk to Billingham Parish Council by email:

billinghampc@gmail.com

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B.A.D.ASS



B.A.D.Ass ACT VII

Hello there boys and girls, yes Billinghay Amateur Dramatics Association is here again to let you know what is happening in your Village. As you may already know, we are currently rehearsing to perform a new Panto in 2021 of "Rapunzel", by Andrew O'Leary. This is an age old story of a beautiful young girl trapped in a tower with no doors and the only way to get to her was to say "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair". Well our Panto has a few more twists with a slightly nutty mother called "Dotty Dinglebottom" played by Tobias, and a host of fairies and fireflies acted by some of our younger members. Another notable character (excluding myself playing the King of course) is Prince Namby Pamby of Fluffydown Wainbow-land, ably enacted by Katie. We also have a wicked ex-fairy called Gothel played (using a very Russian accent) by Katie's sister Jane. Well I don't want to give away the plot so you can all look forward to seeing our production next year. Hopefully, now that COVID Vaccines are beginning to be approved and distributed, we may be in a position to offer our Panto early next year. But it is possible that we may need to put the date back to later in the year when concerns about COVID should have diminished sufficiently for us to meet once again indoors in the comfort of our Village Hall.



Now in the meantime, we are still rehearsing and preparing for our next event. So, if you are interested in joining an active and varied community group, here is your chance. We are always on the lookout for new members and not just those who want to take their place in front of the footlights. We need actors as well as stage hands and people with talents such as art and painting, wood-working, dressmaking and a host of other skills. Surprisingly, many of our members came along to help back-stage and then found themselves getting involved and taking on acting roles to become a part of our regular cast. When Tobias and I came to join BADASS, Tobias wanted to make scenery whilst I wanted to help with audio and lighting. Well since then we have both appeared in dresses and wigs for the amusement of our audiences – so who knows what might happen next! Also, we are not just a theatrical group. We produce our annual Panto but we have also



served up a large helping of one-act plays with dinner as well as singing, dancing and instrumental numbers. The group also maintains a congenial social atmosphere as we arrange nights out for our members for dinners and to the theatre – so we can see how others are doing things - as well as providing support for our local groups such as scouts, guides and schools. We have many members, both young and old, who have found themselves building unknown talents and self-confidence and as they have joined in our



performances. So don't let the opportunity pass you by. If you would like to get involved, have a great time, and give back something to your local community then here is your chance. Simply contact one of the BADASS members and we will do the rest to bring you on-board. We accept all members from ages 8 years and onwards and remember, you are never too old to learn new tricks. Get ready for LIGHTS, MUSIC annnnd ACTION.



For more information contact the BADASS Secretary on mob: 07766186615 or find us on Facebook.

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.

SCOUTS[®]

1st Billingham

We have had another difficult term; in fact, we have not met at all since the October half term. The second 'lockdown' saw us unable to meet face to face again, and the Leadership team took the decision to suspend all meetings and review our position in January.

We are still unable to offer any Scouting to Beavers and Cubs as we do not have sufficient adult volunteers to enable us to run meetings for these sections. If you, or any adult you know, are willing to help with any part of our Group then please get in touch.

We have managed one bittersweet moment this term. We have three Scouts who have now reached the point where they are too old to remain with us and need to move on to pastures new. However, in their time with us all three have managed to achieve the highest award available in the Scout Section, The Chief Scout's Gold Award. In order to gain this award, they have had to complete a number of challenges including Adventure, Outdoor, Creative, Skills, and Teamwork. All three have shown commitment and perseverance to achieve these awards, and we felt it right that we should get them together and formally present them with their awards and to formally say goodbye. They were presented with their awards by the Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts just before Christmas. We wish all three well for their future and hope to see them continue with their Scouting.



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 07831264554 for more details.**

As a result of our commitment to older people in the community F H Manning Financial Services recently received an East Lindsey Age Friendly Business Award through the TED (Talk Eat Drink) program. This was awarded after a virtual assessment and amongst the criteria were how we assist older people and how accommodating the business and our staff are in supporting older people.



Outside of my day to day office job I am a Trustee for Age UK Lindsey, a local charity working to promote and improve the wellbeing of all older people. Many of you will be aware of their services through the local Charity Shops in Coningsby and Woodhall Spa.

One of their key services over the past 9 months has been to continue to provide a befriending service. This service would normally involve a volunteer befriender or a staff member visiting an older person in their home, perhaps for a cup of tea and a chat, or accompanying them to an activity (such as going to a coffee morning). They try to match clients with volunteers who have similar interests or hobbies and this helps to build the relationship.

In recent months because of the pandemic they have moved from home visiting to telephone befriending, but are still offering a friendly voice and regular contact to older people who might find themselves alone because of loss of a partner or family member or because they live in an isolated community. The service is funded through donations and grant support and is free to older people. At the moment Age UK Lindsey are in contact with over 100 older people and every £10 donated will support a visit. We know the service makes a huge difference to the lives of those in contact with the service.

Many of you will have felt lonely or isolated during this pandemic and relied on someone to talk to. Not everyone has someone to turn to. If you think you could volunteer or, more importantly, if you are feeling lonely and isolated then they are there to help. Please call them on **01507 524242**.

If you want to find out more and you see me around the village, stop and have a chat (at a distance of course).

And after a turbulent 2020 I wish you all the nicest possible Christmas and let's all hope that 2021 brings a return to 'normal'.



F H Manning Financial Services are
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Email: clm@fhmanning.co.uk

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



BILLINGHAY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

I can't believe that as I am writing, Christmas is nearly upon us for another year. Where does time go?

Our Christmas performances will look a little different this year. Each class will perform a small production which will be recorded and uploaded to our website.

We continue to show our pupils the career opportunities that are available to them in the future, although by remote means at the moment. A big thank you to some of our ex pupils (Becky Willows, Emma Hudson, Ben Brunt and Rebecca Collins) who have shared their own experiences of education and the workplace with our pupils. Our focus this term is on showing our pupils the career opportunities that are available in the field of science. If you have a career in science and can spare a few minutes to put together a recording about the work that you do then this would be greatly appreciated.

We continue to take part in sporting activities organised by Carres Outreach against other local schools, although these are currently virtual competitions. Two of our classes took part in a skipping challenge and another in a Boccia competition. Our children are also taking part in the Carres Outreach Couch 2 Tokyo challenge to encourage physical activity. The aim is for schools to walk the equivalent distance from Sleaford to Tokyo as quickly as they can.

Continuing the remote theme, we took part in a Microsoft Teams Remembrance Service from the International Bomber Command in Lincoln. I would also like to thank Rev Holt from St. Michael's Church and Richard Hilliard from the Baptist Chapel for delivering acts of worship at school via Microsoft Teams.

Primary School Admissions for September 2021

If your child was born between 1.9.16 and 31.8.17 then he/she is eligible to start school in September 2021. The admissions scheme is co-ordinated by the Local Authority (LA) Schools Admission Team and not the school and opened on the 16th November 2020. The vast majority of applications are made online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions. If you require help then please contact us at school and we will be glad to assist you. Alternatively you can contact School Admissions via email at schooladmissions@lincolnshire.gov.uk or on the phone 01522 782030. Applications must be received by the School Admissions Team by the closing date of 15th January 2021. If you would like to view our school then please contact Mrs Rowitt on 01526 860786 to arrange an appointment. We are able to offer viewings but with one parent at a time and these are taking place after school.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has supported school over this term and I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. This has been a challenging term and time for everyone and we look forward to a brighter start to 2021.

With best wishes,
Mr R Allen, Headteacher.

BYGONES

BYGONES HARDLY SEEMS APPROPRIATE FOR THIS ARTICLE. HOWEVER, WE RECENTLY CAME ACROSS A COPY OF THE BILLINGHAY CHRONICLE 2000 COMPILED BY THE MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE AT THE TIME.

IT IS STILL A VERY ABSORBING READ BUT THE PAGE THAT GRABBED OUR ATTENTION REFERRED TO THE COST OF LIVING IN BILLINGHAY IN 1999. SO MUCH SO, WE THOUGHT IT WOULD GIVE OUR RESIDENTS CHANCE TO SEE HOW MUCH PRICES HAD CHANGED IN THE ENSUING TWENTY YEARS. RATHER THAN SPEND A LOT OF TIME RESEARCHING THE PRESENT-DAY COST, WE ARE LEAVING THIS FOR YOU TO PUT YOUR OWN FIGURES IN USING THE DIAGRAM BELOW:

The Cost of Living in Billingham in 1999

Commodities are measured in both metric and imperial measures. The integration from imperial to metric has been continuing since 1989. The integration period has now been extended a further ten years to allow businesses time to adjust. The problem is that whilst Europeans use metric measurements the United States of America uses only the imperial system and goods which are intended for the American market continue to require the imperial measurements.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost price £</i>	NOW £
Pint of milk - delivered to doorstep	0.39	
Flour- 1.5 kg	0.42	
Loaf of white sliced bread	0.59	
White Sugar - 1 kg	0.55	
Breakfast cereal - 500 gm	1.85	
Fresh Chicken - 1.8 kg	2.99	
Beef (1 lb stewing steak)	1.90	
Pork (1 lb chops)	1.00	
Sausages (1 lb pork)	1.40	
Potatoes - 25 kg	5.00	
Pint of beer	1.70	
Litre of unleaded petrol	0.73	
Road Tax on Private Car	155.00	
Return bus fare to Sleaford	1.95	
Cost of prescription for NHS medicines	5.90	
Television licence	101.00	
Postage stamp: 1st. class	0.26	
2nd class	0.19	
Heating oil (per litre)	0.09	
Coal (per cwt or 50 kg)	6.50	
Clothes Washing liquid	2.65	
Haircut: Gentlemen	5.00	
Ladies cut and blow dry	11.50	
Fish and Chips (one portion)	2.40	
Daily Newspaper	0.30	
Minimum hourly wage	3.60	

HAVING READ THROUGH THE BILLINGHAY CHRONICLE 2000, IT STRUCK US WHAT A GREAT JOB THE VILLAGE DID, ABLY GUIDED BY THEIR COMMITTEE. VISITORS TO THE VILLAGE ARE ALWAYS IMPRESSED BY THE MOSAIC WHICH MUST HAVE TAKEN MANY LONG HOURS TO COMPLETE. AS WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED MANY OLD PHOTOGRAPHS RECENTLY, WE DECIDED TO INCLUDE ONE OF THE COMMITTEE AS SEVERAL OF THEM ARE STILL RESIDENTS WHO MUST BE WELL SATISFIED WITH THEIR EFFORTS. (AND SO THEY SHOULD BE)



AND TO COMPLETE A TRIO OF ITEMS RELATING TO THE MILLENNIUM, WE HAVE THIS PHOTO OF THE YOUNG FARMERS CLUB 1998



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

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SPORTS

QUIZZES

*ANSWERS TO
BIG QUESTIONS*

The Light House

Learning what life s
REALLY all about

@ the Chapel, Church Street

Every Fortnight

during term time

7.45-9.15pm

Billingham Baptist Chapel

Richard Hilliard: 0771 7392628

THE LATEST QUIZ



For this issue's quiz, you have to provide the missing word from the song title. What does the artist(s) say they have got!

Title	Artist	Answer
1 Janie's Got a _____	Aerosmith	
2 You Really Got _____	Kinks/Van Halen	
3 You've Got a _____	James Taylor	
4 I Got You _____	Sonny and Cher	
5 She's Got a _____	Billy Joel	
6 I've Got The World On a _____	Frank Sinatra	
7 Got My _____ Set On You	George Harrison	
8 I've Got a Rock N' Roll _____	Eric Clapton	
9 We've Got _____	Bob Seger	
10 He's Got The Whole _____ In His Hands	Traditional	

Answers to last issue's quiz

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Something | 2. Astronomy |
| 3. Proofread | 4. Parenting |
| 5. Chicanery | 6. Plentiful |
| 7. Disembark | 8. Porcupine |
| 9. Fireplace | 10. Heartsick |



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Opening Times:

Tuesday		4.30 - 7.00pm
Wednesday		4.30 - 7.00pm
Thursday		4.30 - 7.30pm
Friday	11.30am - 1.30pm	4.30 - 8.00pm
Saturday	11.30am - 1.30pm	4.30 - 7.30pm



Large Haddock Chips
& Peas £4.80



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Fried Chicken & Chips
£4.50



Donner Kebabs
Home Made Chicken Kebab

LOOK OUT FOR OUR TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY SPECIAL OFFERS

NEXT ISSUE January/February 2021 – DEADLINE DATE – 5 December