

The Billingham Times & Advertiser



Issue No 02/21

March/April 2021

Billingham Parish Office 01526 861845 or 07483 346143

info@billinghampc.co.uk

Ringmoor House, Ringmoor Close, Billingham LN4 4EY



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**

BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE IN BILLINGHAY

During the past few years people living in sparsely populated areas of the country have frequently complained at the speed or even non-existence of Broadband. Residents in Billingham have in the past made comment about the download times in this area.

With more and more businesses and households relying on Internet access, the Government introduced a Scheme to financially help those rural areas with a specific problem.

Although the Scheme was advertised nationally, the take up has not been as extensive as was hoped.

The Scheme ends at the end of March 2021.

Any personal or business users wishing to take advantage need to act fast or miss out.

To get full details as to whether you qualify for assistance to improve your broadband speed, please check with the website detailed below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gigabit-broadband-rollout-milestone-reached>

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 12 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

There is very little to tell you about because of the limitation on organised activities and meetings due to the Covid 19 restrictions. The Council continues to meet using online technology but are unable to arrange events etc.

The Speedwatch continues to operate under the guidance of our Chair, Tom Cassidy.

We are currently under strength on numbers on the Council due to resignations for health and relocation issues. If you want to get involved, please see page 29 for more details.

The current situation has, however, given Councillors the time to review the policies and procedures that are laid down so that the Council, Councillors and Staff comply with the legal requirements. Once these are finalised, the new documents will be available on the new Parish website.

The Council are always looking for new ideas and, if you can suggest something that will improve the village, please contact the Parish Clerk or our new Chair Tom Cassidy .
(tom.cassidy@billinghamypc.co.uk)

As is to be expected, the recent extreme weather has played havoc with road surfaces, some of which were already requiring attention. The Council have been reporting these whenever they are aware of problems. Action by Highways is not always immediate as a lot of other parishes have similar problems. It may be helpful, if residents could also report the problems direct to the County Council as all reports are included on the "Fix My Street" website. You can also view the current situation on each incident on that website.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to send their condolences to relatives and friends of loved ones who have passed away in the ongoing pandemic. Several people in the village have unfortunately, been affected and an obituary to two well known residents is overleaf.

ERIC AND AUDREY GISSING

The coronavirus pandemic has claimed many victims and sadly we in Billingham are not exempt. The last week of January saw us lose Eric and Audrey Gissing who died within 48 hours of each other. Audrey died in the Pilgrim Hospital on 27th of January and Eric followed 2 days later in the County Hospital at Lincoln

Eric and Audrey came to Billingham from Yorkshire in 1970 with their two daughters Carol and Diane, Eric taking up a teaching post at the Lafford School where he taught Rural Science and General Science for many years before he took early retirement due to ill health. For a number of years, Audrey was a dinner supervisor at Billingham Primary School when the school was sited on Church Street

After retirement Eric and Audrey stayed in the village and Eric was well known in the village and always had plenty of time for a chat. He enjoyed gardening and over the years provided many plants for friends and neighbours and he was particularly good to the elderly.

Another of Eric's and Audrey's interests was car boot and tabletop sales and they would be seen at many local sales and functions where they sold Eric's plants and other items. Their stall was popular with children as they could acquire their Lego kits or ready-made models that Eric had assembled.

Eric was very keen on quizzes and was a keen attender of local quizzes. A lot of his TV viewing was looking at the myriad of quiz programmes on various channels, quite often in a different room to Audrey who preferred Coronation Street and Emmerdale.

Eric and Audrey had a long association with the Ship Inn and both worked behind the bar for many years. In Eric's case it had to be in the evenings and at weekends as well as school holidays. In recent times he was an ever present at the Sunday night quiz where he was well known for his attempts at humour to keep the evening light-hearted. Eric and Audrey were frequent diners at the Ship Inn and they will be greatly missed when hopefully it reopens after lockdown restrictions.

They will certainly be missed by many of us in the village and it will be strange not to hear Eric greeting us from his lawn or his greenhouse as we walk past Princess Square.

**STAY HOME
PROTECT THE NHS
SAVE LIVES**



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.

Walking in Lincolnshire

All the information you need to get walking in beautiful Lincolnshire.

Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

You are only a couple of clicks away from masses of free walks, all over the beautiful Lincolnshire countryside.

Simply visit the website as below. Click on one of the options for Lincolnshire walks, maps, walking club details and walk books.

Walking in Lincolnshire www.walkinginlincs.co.uk is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Lincolnshire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So, home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk
email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Set out below are details of planning applications affecting the village since the issue of the last Newsletter:

20/1403/OUT Land off Park Lane - erection of 29 Dwellings

Comments made were:

- Is Park Lane suitable as an access
- Details of working practices during construction needed
- Adequate car parking should be provided
- Homes should be sustainable in accordance with the Billingham Community Plan
- Electric Charging Points should be provided
- Bins should be screened
- Concerns expressed about adequacy of sewage & drainage systems
-

20/1490/VARCON 76 High Street - variation to conditions

20/1489/FUL 69 Walcott Road - demolition of existing building - 1 single bungalow

20/1662/FUL Barn to rear of Coach & Horses Tattershall Road - alteration to barn to provide toilet facilities for village events on the Coach Field. Councillors had no objections.

BUS SERVICES - LINCOLNSHIRE

We have received the following note from the Co-ordinating group for bus services in Lincolnshire.

Our team is now very busy assisting with the effort to get people to their Vaccination Hubs and offering the extended CallConnect services and Transport Helpline.

During these challenging days, changes to bus services can happen at a very rapid speed. Operators need only give two day notices of an intention to change/ suspend/ reinstate services.

We are trying hard to keep up to speed with these changes and keep communities informed via our social media channels and our website Lincsbus.info.

We would ask that if you have the facility to do so, you should check <https://lincsbus.info/bus-services/lincs-bus-updates/> this is where we publish all changes.

We will obviously do our best to alert the public to any specific changes but as these can literally happen overnight – it is really worth keeping a check on this information page.

CHRISTMAS COLOURING COMPETITION

The two winners of the colouring competition in the November/December issue were:

Oscar Rivers-Scott
Iana Chewlis

Congratulations



MEET THE COUNCILLORS

In the last issue, we gave details of the Chair, Tom Cassidy and the retiring Chair, Kathryn Locke. It is our intention over the next few issues, to give details of all your Councillors. We are starting with our two newest recruits who are:

ANDY CATLETT



Cllr Andy Catlett serves in the Royal Air Force as an Engineer Officer, having already completed 40 years service. During this time he has lived and served in numerous locations from one end of the UK to the other and spent a number of years living overseas. With the wanderlust days coming to an end Andy settled in Billingham with his family in 2015. Already being the longest he has spent in any one house, Andy is looking to become a member of the community and not just a resident. Becoming a co-opted member of the Parish Council very recently in September 2020, this position is seen as a positive opportunity to influence the future development of Billingham and at the same time

protect the character of the village that is important to many. With plenty of training still to undertake Andy is working hard to become a productive councillor.

Maintaining military links in the community, Andy is Chair of the Billingham Branch of the Royal British Legion. In his spare time he is a keen genealogist, constantly developing the family ancestral tree as more records become publicly accessible. Keen to keep fit he can be seen regularly cycling around the local area, albeit less so in the winter months where the gym takes over.

TERRY WATERS



Terry was born 1944 in Hackney East London and served six years in the army before starting a truck driving career which took him all over Europe and Middle East.

He changed to International coach tour driver, and finally retired aged 72. He has lived in Billingham for the last 16 years with his wife Elizabeth after moving back from Germany where he lived for 6 years.

Joined the Billingham Parish Council because he is proud of our friendly little village where the people are so friendly and felt as part of a great team He wants to help our community grow. Because he feels that Billingham is a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

NEW BUSINESS FOR THE VILLAGE

Billingham Parish Council are pleased to know that a new take away business has recently opened in Victoria Street.

The Red Spice team will be serving authentic Indian traditional cuisine and offer a varied menu.

We wish 'Red Spice' all the best



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on 07899848401





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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BILLINGHAY VILLAGE HALL SURVEY

It would be appreciated if you could spare 5 minutes to complete this short survey and return it to any of the addresses at the bottom of the page.

Name or Organisation

Contact No:

In the last 2 years, have you used the facilities at Billingham Village Hall? (Please tick)

Yes No

If yes, in what capacity?

Private Party Group Meeting (e.g. Youth Club)

Attending an Event (e.g. Pantomime) Voting (Election)

Other (please state)

Due to the ever expanding size of the village, do you think increased services and facilities at the Hall would be beneficial to the people of Billingham and the surrounding area?

Yes No

If yes, what provision of additional services do you think could be beneficial?

Additional Storage Bar Better Parking

Larger Seating Area Changing Rooms

Other (Please state)

Would you or your group like to be involved in developing the services and facilities at the Hall?

Yes No

Any other comments:

Please pop your completed survey through the letterbox at any of these addresses,. Thank you.

32 St Michael's Close

60 Walcott Road

1A Shire Close

1 Brunswick Square

Elysian Salon, Queen Street

Village Hall Ringmoor Close

26 Victoria Street

42 High Street

Help us keep Lincolnshire safe

1

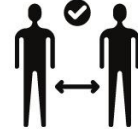
Follow Government guidelines:



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

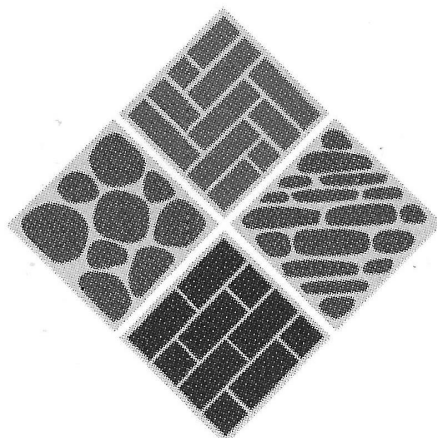
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Welcome to your Mobile Library Service

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?

Sleaford NPT (Neighbourhood Policing Team) has been involved in a number of reports of hare coursing around the north and south areas of Sleaford.

Officers have seized a number of vehicles for various traffic offences as well as being used in hare coursing. They have reported persons involved in hare coursing under the hunting act, dogs seized and given any veterinary attention if required, and persons travelling into Lincolnshire and in groups were reported for breaching COVID 19 regulations and fines given. The NPT will continue to patrol rural areas and deal with hare coursing offences reported.



Vehicle seized after getting stuck in the farmers field.

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. Hare coursing - 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.



Twitter - @SleafordPolice



Facebook - Sleaford Police

YOUR neighbourhood | **OUR** beat

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(and enter your postcode)

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POLICE



101

IN AN
EMERGENCY
ALWAYS
CALL 999

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BILLINGHAY MEDICAL PRACTICE

www.billinghaymedicalpractice.co.uk

Patient

Participation

"Representing patients and putting them at the heart of all we do"

Group

Billinghay Medical Practice is keen to hear patients' views on the healthcare provided by this Practice and the South West Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

We would like to have more input from our patients, and look forward to welcoming new members to our friendly meetings. We meet here on the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December from 18.00–19.30.



Meetings in 2021

2 March

1 June

7 September

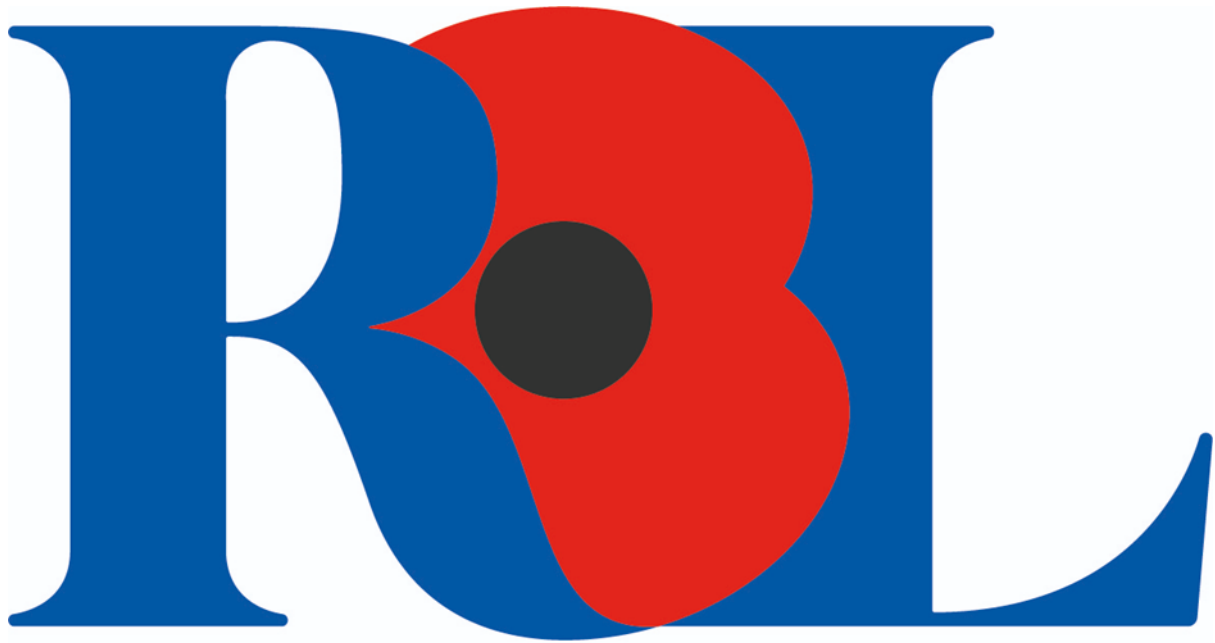
7 December

Providing feedback on patients' needs, concerns and interests, and giving them a voice in the organisation of their care.

Influencing the provision of secondary healthcare and social care locally.

(From: Terms of Reference on Noticeboard).





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Hello from the Billingham Branch of the Royal British Legion!

Many of you will be familiar with the Legion, indeed some of you may be members, particularly as we have a high number of serving and retired members of HM Forces in this area. The Legion is probably best known for their Poppy Appeal, but there's a lot more to us than that!

The Royal British Legion was established in 1921 to care for those who had suffered as a result of service during the First World War. Today we're at the heart of a national network looking after our Armed Forces community. The Legion is here to help members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families.

If you live in the local area, and think you could benefit from our help, we want to hear from you. Whilst certain criteria would need to be met every request would be assessed for suitability and assistance may be offered where appropriate.

Applications can be made by contacting the Chairperson, Andy Catlett at catandyruth@aol.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

From time to time, we are receiving requests for Family History information from keen amateur genealogists with connections to the village. With the help from Past Times (Billinghay History Group), we often can provide answers.

We have received a request from Mr Terry Lamyman of Bracebridge Heath for help with identifying relatives from a photograph.

Details of his request are shown below:

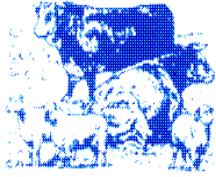
Trying to identify the couple in this old photograph, clues being their clothing and the photographer including the house name in the background - 'Kergil House'. The photo came to me third hand but no doubt came from the estate of Madeleine Hare, my dad's sister, who lived in Ringmoor Close, Billinghay. Maddie's mother was Elizabeth Gilbert of Billinghay, somewhere near the river, who married Alfred Lamyman. I thought if I found the house, I could identify the occupants, who were likely the couple pictured. Royal Mail sorting office have no record of a current Kergil House in the Billinghay area.

Terry Lamyman



If you can help, please contact either the Parish Office (info@billinghaypc.co.uk) or Lou Hird (louhird@hotmail.com)

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8.00am to 4.00pm	Sunday

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BILLINGHAY CHILDRENS CENTRE - LATEST

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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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 2022.

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

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Care packages are individual and flexible, with the main focus being to assist our clients to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

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- Dressing, Undressing
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- Post hospital discharge
- Medication Reminders / Administration
- Meal Preparation
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- Cognitive Impairment

Tel: 01526 860204

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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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OTHER SIZES**

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 we commenced this process in the last issue of the Newsletter. Specific individual details can be given to relations who may request them via the Parish Office. The next chapter of the book is below:

1914

The reasons for the outbreak of the First World War do not come within the compass of this book, but the Germans declared war on Russia on 14th August 1914 and on the French two days later. As the frontier between France and Germany was heavily fortified and a quick victory was extremely unlikely, Schlieffen, the Chief of the German General Staff from 1892 until 1906, had proposed that the Germans pass through Belgium to encircle the French. On 2nd August the Germans demanded free passage through Belgium which was refused. The British were determined to support Belgium and on 4th August 1914 they declared war on Germany, the only allied power to declare war on Germany rather than the other way round.

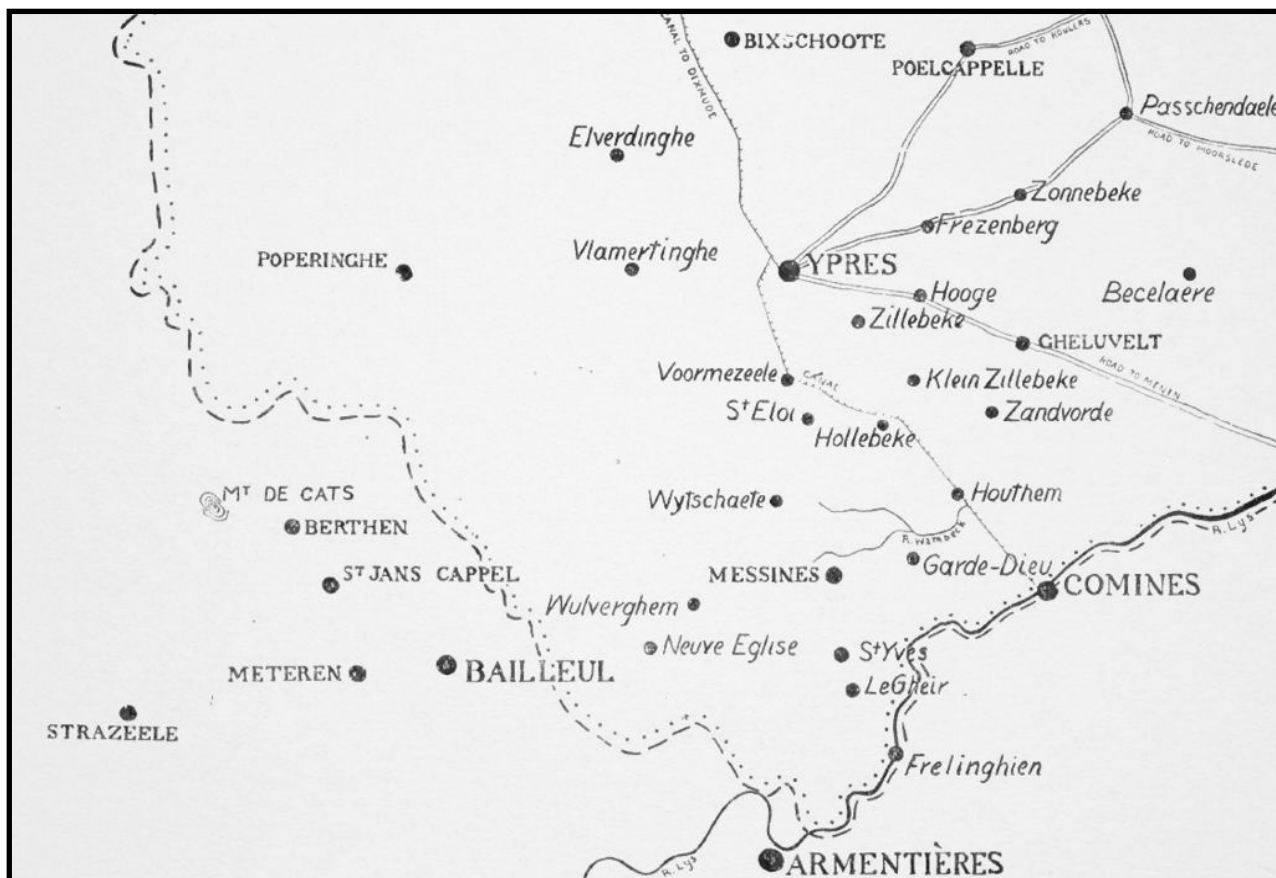
The French were aware of the Germans' intentions but underestimated the strength of the German army. They also had a plan to attack the German flank through the Ardennes which commenced on 14th August. The Germans had foreseen this and the French were heavily defeated and, having no plan of defence they retreated in confusion.

The British Expeditionary force was in position on 20th August and moved forward, reaching the town of Mons in Belgium on 22nd August. The disciplined rifle fire of the British Army halted the Germans who believed they were facing machine guns. However, Sir John French, the British commander, realising that the French Army on his right had fallen back and that there were no troops on his left flank either, was forced to retreat. On 26th August the army stood and fought. They stopped the Germans at le Cateau, which allowed the British army to continue their withdrawal.

The Allied armies continued to fall back and on 5th September the Germans crossed the River Marne. The French general Gallini was hoping to encircle the Germans, but Joffre met them head on and as a consequence was pushing them out of the trap. Kluck had been driving east, but, due to Gallini's plans, turned west. Further east Bulov's army held firm and a gap opened up between the two armies. Sir John French was finally persuaded by Joffre to stop his retreat and when he advanced, he found there were no troops in front of him. A general retreat was ordered by the Germans and by 14th September they were back at the Aisne. Here the exhausted troops dug in and trench warfare commenced.

Both sides tried to turn each other's flanks and what was called "the race to the sea" began.

MAP SHOWING THE AREA REFERRED TO IN THIS ACCOUNT



In the middle of October, the Germans moved towards Ypres trying to outflank the British, who by chance had arrived there at the same time, and the first battle of Ypres began. The fourth German army had taken the Messines Ridge and the village of Wytschaete by 1st November. And it was on this day that the first man from Billingham was killed. He was **John Robert Paley**, Private 5432, 1st Battalion the Lincolnshire Regiment.

John Paley was born on 7th September 1880, the son of Robert Paley (a baker) and Mary Elizabeth Paley (nee Drury) and was baptised on October 10th 1880. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records that he was the husband of Elizabeth Paley of 19, Norton Street, Grantham, Lincs. No precise details are known, but from the low service number, his age and date of death so early in the war, it is almost certain that John Paley was a regular soldier.

The 1st Lincolns were stationed in Portsmouth at the start of the war, but less than three weeks later were south of Mons, near the battlefield of Malplaquet, where their predecessors, the 10th Regiment of Foot had fought under Marlborough 205 years before.

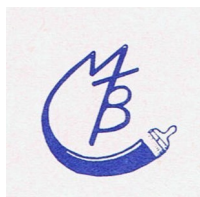
On 31st October 1914 the 1st Lincolns together with the 1st Northumberlands moved to Kemmel with orders to reinforce the 2nd Cavalry Division which was holding the town of Wytschaete. The Germans were attempting to "pinch out" the Ypres salient by simultaneous attacks from north and south. However, the woods gave good cover to

the British who managed to hold the Germans with their disciplined rifle fire. From midnight the trenches were shelled and at about 1am on 1st November nine battalions of Germans advanced on the Household Cavalry who numbered four hundred and fifteen rifles. They were outnumbered twelve to one and consequently were forced back to the southern and western edges of the town. The second cavalry division, including the Lincolns, was ordered to retake Wytschaete and within fifteen minutes of receiving the order they moved off, despite the difficulties of locating the trenches in the dark. They deployed on the right of the Kemmel - Wytschaete road. As they reached a railway cutting south west of the village they were fired on, possibly by Indian troops, and suffering many killed and wounded, fell back about 100 yards.

Sometime about dawn they were again ordered to attack and again suffered many killed and wounded. They took cover in a fold in the ground about 100 yards from a German strong point. They remained there until 6.45, then, being shelled by both sides, fell back in the direction of Kemmel. The survivors gathered outside Lindshoek. In the action **Captain Blackwood** received the DSO and **L/Cpl Fitch, Pte Saunders** and **Pte Birch** the DCM. General Allenby congratulated the Battalion on their performance, stating that they had been instrumental in stopping the German advance and had fought brilliantly. Casualties were five officers killed, 3 wounded, 293 other ranks killed, wounded, or missing. John Paley was one of the missing and has no known grave. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres.

The Germans continued to make strenuous efforts to take Ypres, but by 11th November 1914 their last attack had been repulsed and they had suffered heavy casualties. Their total casualties in the area amounted to about 135,000 against Allied losses of 75,000 and by the end of November the fighting had become static and had developed into trench warfare, which would see the positions of both sides remain largely unchanged for the next four years. This battle became known as the First Battle of Ypres and it marked the end of the mobile war on the Western Front. Both sides had expected a short war, but it was becoming increasingly clear that this would not be the case.

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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.A.S.S



BADASS Act VIII

Hello folks and here we are in 2021 and still waiting for an end to 'Lockdown'. However, may we first express our sincere condolences to all who have lost family and friends to this awful virus. It seemed that Billinghay was escaping the worst of its effects but recently a number of our villagers have fallen prey to its grasp. Fortunately, the vaccination programme is now making a distinct impact on the population and hopefully we will soon see the beneficial effects of its influence. Let us hope that we may come through this experience with our wits and our health intact.



In my last epistle, I noted that restrictions due to COVID may necessitate a delay to our planned Panto in February. Therefore, at our January business meeting, we decided that for safety and security of both our players and of course our audience, that we needed to put the production of our Panto back to the latter part of 2021. Indeed, we plan (at the moment) to produce the show in November 2021 when (we hope) restrictions will no longer apply and we can meet safely in our Village Hall. We are therefore sorry to disappoint our faithful audience, but this is being done to ensure your health and safety.

In the meantime, and with summer slowly approaching, we decided to prepare a Variety Show that we can perform around July time. We started off by selecting songs and acts from previous shows so that it would take a minimum of rehearsal and preparation (if we are still isolated from each other). However, that plan has quickly slipped to the side as some brand-new pieces are being introduced and practiced as we speak. The plan for the show, which will be directed by Katie, is to perform indoors at the Village Hall if the current government advice and restrictions permit. However, if we are unable to gather indoors, then the show will go on with an open-air performance on the Sports field. We will let you know nearer the time as our situation unfolds.



Now on a final and more cheerful note, I am pleased to report that BADAss has been accepted as Coop Community Champions in 2021 Yeyyyy !. This means that donations made to the Community Champions during the Spring Quarter (Sunday 7th March to Saturday 5th June 2021) will go to BADAss and whomever we share the quarter with. The money we receive goes to improving our facilities and wardrobe and also helps us to provide assistance to other small organisations in need of support. So please, look out for the collection boxes in your local Coop and give generously, and let's look forward to a better 2021.



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.



Since we are still unable to meet there is no report as such this term. I would just like to reiterate our desperate need for adult volunteers to help in all sections. If no adults come forward, then it seems likely that the group will not be in a position to restart.

If you know of any adults who are willing to help out at all, or any child aged between 6 and 14 years who would like to come along and join in the fun, contact myself on 01526 869141 or Roger on 07831264554 for more details.

As there is no news to bring you regarding Billingham Scouts, we are setting out below some of the aims of the movement when it was founded to encourage residents to help and their children to join this worthwhile group.

Scouting in the United Kingdom

What is Scouting?

Scouting is a worldwide, values based, educational movement.

How Scouting began

The World Scout movement began in the United Kingdom in 1907 with an experimental camp on Brownsea Island, Dorset. During the week-long camp, Robert Baden-Powell and a small party of boys put into practice his ideas for training young people in responsible citizenship. In August the following year, the first official scout camp was held at Humshaugh, near Hexham, Northumberland.

Today, there are nearly 32 million members in 218 countries and territories and the movement is still growing. Two-thirds of the world's scouts live in developing countries.

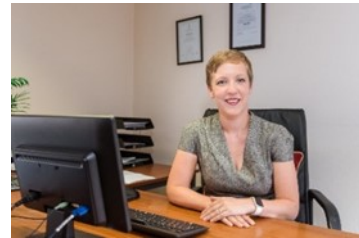
A co-educational movement

Scouting in the UK is firmly committed to coeducation so boys and girls can meet the aims of Scouting through one programme.

The aim and method of scouting

The aim of scouting is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving the aim is through the provision of exciting and adventurous activities with progressive training based on the scout promise and law guided by adult leadership.



You won't work forever. At some point, whether you like it or not, you will have to retire and rely on what you have saved for the years you have been working. Sadly, often due to circumstances outside of their control some people have not managed to save by the time they reach retirement age. But what can you actually do to ensure that you are ready to give up working by the time you reach **retirement age**? Its also doesn't matter how old you are, you are never too old to start.

In your 20s

You are young, and it is easy to think you have a lot of time before you reach retirement age — but the earlier you start saving, the better. That way, you will know what is coming, what you can spend to maintain a certain lifestyle, and what to save. Remember, saving opens up more opportunities for you as you get older. Furthermore, it stops you from borrowing later.

In your 30s

In your 30s, you are probably thinking of getting a mortgage. If you started saving in your 20s, you shouldn't have any issues getting a good mortgage deal with a favourable interest rate. Just make sure to research before getting the mortgage as it can be quite a minefield. In my opinion a recommended (independent) mortgage adviser is a worthwhile person to talk to before potentially making the biggest purchase of your life. It is also time to pay off your credit card and be on control of your future finances.

In your 40s

Now is the time to syphon as much of your disposable income as possible and put it towards your retirement contributions. So, if you get a wage rise or bonus, think about using a proportion towards your retirement. That said, ensure you also have an emergency easy – access fund which can call upon, some allocation for your holiday, and special events. You need some cash to enjoy life! If you are not on track, make the necessary adjustments.

In your 50s

This is the best time to get your state pension statement. This will help you plan better for your retirement finances. If you are fortunate enough to find yourself with a lump sum or substantial disposable income this is also an opportune time to consider other investments with tax advantages.

In your 60s

Soon you will be giving up working. So, it is high time you have an idea of what your general bills and commitments will be like in the future to know how to access and spend your pension and investment savings.

Conclusion

Saving money throughout your life is not easy, however, if you make the right choices (at the right times) and have a plan that is unique to your future, you will likely attain the **financial freedom** you desire throughout your life.

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 just wanted to begin with a massive thank you to everyone who has offered support to school since the devastating event on the 27th January, when our PE Shed burnt down. I came to school early that morning to find the shed, which housed all our PE equipment used by the children, burnt down to the ground. I left school that day so grateful and humbled by the offers of support school received from our local community. These have continued to flood in over the past week. I would like to thank everyone for their very generous offers of help and donations which we will use for new PE equipment.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the fund raising page. When this was set up we could not have dreamed it would reach nearly £2,300. Every penny will go towards new PE equipment for our children. Thank you to everyone for your extremely generous donations.

I would also like to thank the retained firefighters who came to school in the early hours of the 27th January and put the fire out.

So many people/companies have offered help and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them. So in no particular order:

Laura Davies, the Chair of our Friends of the School
The Ship Inn, Billingham
Willmott Dixon
Twells of Billingham
Paul Rowson Building
Dane Farrow
Green Barn Timber
Build Base Hykeham
T Balfe Construction
Billingham Garage
Carres Grammar School Sports Outreach
Apex Roofing
Billingham Community Group
Billingham Football Club
Billingham Baptist Chapel
Lincoln City Football Club
Nationwide School Uniforms
Tarrys Landscape Gardening and Maintenance
Tom Cassidy – Chair of Billingham Parish Council
Jewsons

We hope to have a new metal shed erected very soon and stocked full of the PE equipment that was lost in the fire.

Again, thank you to everyone in and around the local community for your generosity which means that our children will not lose out on a lack of PE equipment.

With best wishes,
Mr R Allen, Headteacher

BYGONES

OUR REQUEST TO RESIDENTS FOR MORE OLD PHOTOGRAPHS SEEMED TO HAVE FALLEN ON DEAF EARS RECENTLY. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED AN EXCELLENT PHOTOGRAPH OF RESIDENTS OF RINGMOOR IN THE MID TO LATE SIXTIES. (THANKS GEOFF)

IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE FLAT CAP WAS TRADITIONAL AT THAT TIME AND ALSO GARDENING JUDGING FROM HOW NICE THE GARDENS LOOK.



USUALLY WE LEAVE OUR READERS TO IDENTIFY THE PEOPLE FEATURING IN THE PHOTOGRAPH BUT ALL OF THE NAMES HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED AND SO WE ARE LISTING THEM TO SAVE ARGUMENTS!!

THEY ARE (LEFT TO RIGHT):

JOHN BEE (No 16), ARTHUR SKEITH (No 12), LYDIA NEWTON (No 14), ROSE SKEITH, WALTER DICKINSON, THOMAS CREASEY & HARRY FAULKNER

FOR FURTHER PHOTOGRAPHS TO PUBLISH, WE HAVE REFERRED ONCE AGAIN TO THE BILLINGHAY CHRONICLE 2000, THIS WONDERFUL BOOKLET GIVES FULL DETAILS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS AT THAT TIME AND A LOT OF DETAILS OF THEIR HISTORY. IT WOULD BE GREAT IF SOMEONE COULD UPDATE IT WITH DETAILS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

ANYONE LOOKING FOR A LOCKDOWN PROJECT?

WE HAVE PUBLISHED NUMEROUS PHOTOS OF BILLINGHAY'S SUCCESSFUL FOOTBALL TEAMS. WE HAVE BEEN REMINDED THAT, AT ONE TIME, THE VILLAGE HAD A THRIVING CRICKET TEAM AND SO TO REDRESS THE BALANCE WE ARE SHOWING A PHOTO OF THE 1999 TEAM. AGAIN, WE HAVE ALL OF THE NAMES BUT WILL LEAVE YOU TO IDENTIFY AS MANY AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU NEED ANY DETAILS TO SETTLE DIFFERENCES, LET US KNOW.



AND FINALLY, HAVING PUBLISHED THE BILLINGHAY ENTRY IN THE DOMESDAY BOOK, WE ARE MODERNISING AND SETTING OUT BELOW THE DETAILS OF THE VILLAGE CONTAINED IN THE KELLY'S DIRECTORY OF LINCOLNSHIRE FOR 1892

Billingham is a village, township and parish, 10 miles north east of Sleaford, in the North Kesteven division of the County, parts of Kesteven, first division of the wapentake of Langoe, Sleaford Union, petty sessional division and county court district, rural deanery of Lafford No 1 and archdeaconry and diocese of Lincoln . A small stream called the Skirth, sometimes navigable, and dividing North Kyme from Billingham, passed through the parish which is also traversed by the Old Roman Car Dyke.

A fire engine was kept in the village. John Dawson Bowling Esq. of Tilney Hall, Timberland was Lord of the Manor and the trustees of the late H. Cragg Esq. were the principal landowners at that time. Also there were many small freeholders. The crops grown were wheat, oats, cole seed, mustard seeds, mangolds and carrots.

The population of the parish in 1881 was 2234 and the population of the village was about 1250 at the turn of the 19th Century.

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

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THE LATEST QUIZ



For this issue's quiz, you have to provide the surname common to the singers that are named:

Surname

1. Edwin, Kay, Ringo
2. Andy, Robbie, Deniece
3. Ben E., Carole, BB
4. Spencer, Sammy, Skeeter
5. Paul, Neil, Angus
6. Ricky, Dean, Moon
7. Judy, Phil, Edwyn
8. Johnny, Brenda, Peggy
9. Huey, Jerry Lee,, Leona
10. Jim, Van, Mark

Answers to last issue's quiz

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Gun | 2. Me |
| 3. Friend | 4. Babe |
| 5. Way | 6. String |
| 7. Mind | 8. Heart |
| 9. Tonite | 10. World |

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

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Home Made Chicken Kebab

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NEXT ISSUE May/June 2021 – DEADLINE DATE – 10 April