

The Billingham Times & Advertiser



Issue No 04/21

July/August 2021

Billingham Parish Office 01526 861845 or 07483 346143

info@billinghampc.co.uk

Ringmoor House, Ringmoor Close, Billingham LN4 4EY



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

In an Emergency

Lincs Police **01522 532222**

Local Police **101**

Emergency Information 24/7 **0800 6783 105**

DOUBLE HUNDREDS FOR BILLINGHAY

Billingham is obviously a good place to be for longevity. Two of our residents have reached 100 years old in the recent months.

Congratulations to :

HEINZ PREUSS of Princess Square who celebrated his 100th birthday on the 24th April 2021. We believe he may be the first man from Billingham to reach this milestone.

MRS MARJORIE REAR who celebrated her 100th birthday on the 26th May 2021. She is the third lady in the village to reach a century. Long life certainly runs in the family as Mrs Rear's mother also lived to be 100.



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

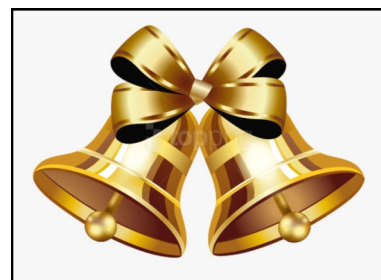
Editor: Billingham Parish Council

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Ernest (Pip) and Gillian Black who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (60 years) on the 18th April, 2021

and

Terry and Liz Waters who will be celebrating their Crystal Wedding Anniversary (15th) on the 6th July 2021



OBITUARY

Billingham sadly recently lost another well known resident with the sudden passing of **Ivan Jacobs** in April this year.

His family, took great comfort from the cards, and tributes paid to Ivan, and the turn out of people standing along Park Lane, Park Avenue and Walcott Road as the funeral procession left the village.



A collection was arranged at Barry's shop where Ivan spent a lot of time in recent years, and enough money has been raised to purchase a memorial bench and make charity donations. Ivan's family have expressed grateful thanks to everyone concerned and have been moved by so many stories of him helping others.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion branch Billingham are proposing to organise a coach trip in the autumn from Billingham village as a central meet up point. This is for serving personnel, veterans, dependents and widows/widowers of such.

Proposed venues are:

- The National Memorial Arboretum which is a British site of national remembrance at Alrewas, near Lichfield, Staffordshire.

And/or

- The International Bomber Command Centre which is a memorial and interpretation centre telling the story of Bomber Command in Lincoln

The visits will be organised for either a Saturday or Sunday depending on interest and **WILL NOT** coincide with remembrance weekend. To express your interest please email Ruth Catletruth@aol.com or call **07584 166487** by Fri 30 July.

The RBL Branch will resume their meetings in person in

The Ship Inn on Wed 4 Aug at 7.30pm

Your local branch is a focal point for social activity, Remembrance, and support to the Armed Forces community in all kinds of ways.

In our local communities we can also play a vital role in supporting individuals and tackling problems like loneliness and isolation.

We welcome all individuals whether you have a connection to the Armed Forces or not.

Come and join us.

INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

PLANNING

Applications received since the last Newsletter

- 21/0525/HOUS.** 18, Victoria Street. This is to knock down an ageing old barn and build a bigger and better one with a room on the top.
- 21/0578/HOUS.** 5, York Terrace. This is to build a garden room, that can be used as a craft room, but it is planned to blend in, and comply with conservation criteria.
- 21/0854/RESM** Land adjacent to Westholme 42 Fen Road
Erection of dwelling

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BILLINGHAY

Our front-page item on the Environment certainly struck a chord with some of our residents. John Townsend of Skirth Road immediately set about obtaining material, designing and making bird boxes and bat boxes. He has already passed several boxes to the Parish Council to arrange for them to be located in suitable sites in the village. He has also expressed a willingness to show other residents including younger people how to make the boxes.

Very many thanks for your efforts John.

The Parish Council is now contacting organisations within the village to get them involved in this worthwhile exercise. We understand that the School has already agreed to take part. Their "green" credentials are also exemplified by the 400-bulb experience in which they are participating (see the School's article on their activities)

If anyone in the village has a suitable location for a bird or bat box, please let the Parish Office know and we will arrange for one to be delivered and fixed, if necessary.



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 AND ON THE PARISH NOTICE BOARDS.



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or

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"The Ship Inn"
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With a warm welcome and friendly atmosphere serving freshly cooked Homemade meals

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*Main Menu, Light lunches, Senior Citizen Lunchtime specials, Pizzas &
Traditional Sunday Lunches*

*Take Away will also be available during our food opening hours so you can enjoy the
same quality food from your own home.*

To Book Your Table or Takeaway Slot Call 01526 268 118

Or Via Facebook Messenger

@theshipinnbillingham

<i>Tues - Fri</i>	<i>12 - 3</i>	<i>5 - 11</i>
<i>Food served</i>	<i>12 - 2</i>	<i>5 - 8</i>
<i>Sat</i>	<i>3 - 11</i>	
<i>Food served</i>	<i>4 - 8</i>	
<i>Sun</i>	<i>12 - 10:30</i>	
<i>Traditional Sunday lunch</i>	<i>12 - 3</i>	

We look forward to Welcoming you!!



**RBL BILLINGHAY
NEEDS YOU!!**

**CALLING ALL POPPY
VOLUNTEERS!**

For all our valued current and willing volunteers.

Do you have some spare time or a few hours available in October and November? Would you be willing to either sell poppies door to door or outside a local public venue? Could your business or workplace support the local RBL to raise funds?

Come and meet your local RBL poppy team at The Ship on Saturday 25th September 3 – 6pm or email Ruth catletruth@aol.com

PAUL ROWSON BUILDING

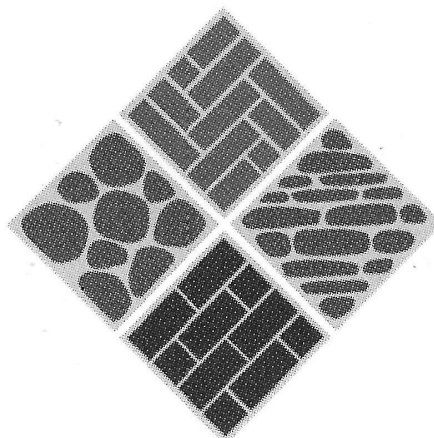
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LOCAL NEWS

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ANNOUNCEMENT IN YOUR
LOCAL NEWSLETTER TO LET
EVERYONE KNOW WHAT IS
HAPPENING OR HAS
HAPPENED.**

**ANYONE WISHING TO INCLUDE
AN ITEM RELATING TO:**

- **A NEW BABY**
- **A BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION**
- **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
OR**
- **AN OBITUARY**

**SHOULD CONTACT THE PAR-
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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 2021 – March 2022

Monday Route 2 & 4 (Rural North)

April	May	June	July	August	September
12th 26th	10th 24th	7th 21st	5th 19th	2nd 16th	13th 27th
October	November	December	January	February	March
11th 25th	8th 22nd	6th	17th 31st	14th 28th	14th 28th

*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

Please comply with Covid restrictions at all times



LOCAL POLICE NEWS

SLEAFORD RURAL NORTH

Top reported crimes in April 2021

◆	Anti-social behaviour	29
◆	Violence & Sexual Offences	25
◆	Criminal Damage & Arson	6
◆	Other Theft	4

Policing Priorities in the area

Priority

Speeding in rural villages has been highlighted from a resident poll

Action Taken:

Sleaford Neighbourhood Policing Team have been carrying out a number of speed checks in the rural villages of Sleaford. The team have on-going training with the use of the Unipar speed gun and issuing traffic offense reports.

PCSOs have the power to stop a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road and issue traffic offence reports under section 89 Road traffic regulations Act 1984.

PCSOs will be out at various times and days of the week carrying out speed checks and dealing with any offences.

The NPT are supporting community speed watch schemes and on occasions be present when they are carrying out their checks.

Crime levels overview over the 12 months ending April 2021

MONTH	NUMBER	% OF TOTAL
May 2020	78	9.1%
Jun 2020	61	7.5%
Jul 2020	79	9.8%
Aug 2020	66	8.1%
Sep 2020	80	9.9%
Oct 2020	80	9.9%
Nov 2020	66	8.1%
Dec 2020	54	6.7%
Jan 2021	62	7.7%
Feb 2021	53	6.5%
Mar 2021	96	11.3%
Apr 2021	78	9.1%

WILLS & POWERS OF ATTORNEY

A sudden or unexpected event like Coronavirus may have brought the need to have a Will and or a Lasting Power of Attorney in place to greater prominence in your mind.

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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).



*Dr Leeper will not be working for the next few months (as a minimum) as he is waiting for Cardiac Surgery.
He wanted to let his patients know (via the PPG) and thank everyone that has already sent him well wishes.
We will be providing updates on his progress periodically if he is happy for us to do so.
We all wish him a speedy recovery.*

CHECK YOUR BOUNDARIES FOR OVERHANGING TREES AND SHRUBS

Now that the weather is improving and all vegetation starting to grow at a quicker rate, residents are reporting to the Council, instances where there are trees encroaching on public footpaths.

The owner or occupier of a property has a legal responsibility (Highway Act 1980 s154) to ensure that the 'public highway' adjacent to a property is not obstructed by vegetation from their property. Local Authorities also have a legal duty to ensure that public highways and street lights are unobstructed, so usually inspect roads regularly and often receive complaints from members of the general public.

The public highway, is defined by law as consisting of any verge, footway, carriageway, bridleway or footpath that is maintained at public expense and over which the public has a right of way.

When Local Authorities become aware of such obstructions, they will usually advise the property owner or occupier of the problem. They may sometimes raise the issue with an owner/occupier even if the vegetation only overhang the pavement/roadway by a small amount - this may seem 'small minded' but where should they draw the line? It is easier for all concerned to use the specified rules.

If the owner/occupier does not take corrective action within a reasonable time (the Local Authority will normally specify a time limit for the work to be completed), the Local Authority can issue a formal notice for the work to be undertaken, and if that is ignored, they can do the work and charge the owner/occupier.

It should be remembered that it is illegal under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to disturb nesting birds; so carefully check before cutting back or, if in doubt, wait until the Autumn.

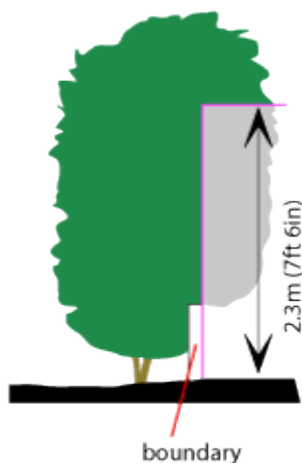
The requirements

Although the Highways Act 1980 doesn't specify any actual measurements for overhanging vegetation, the requirement should be met by:

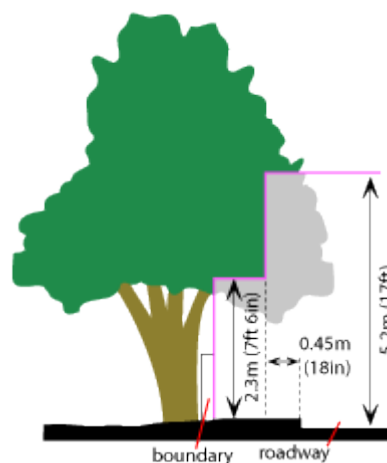
- For pedestrian areas, minimum headroom of 2.3m (7ft 6 inches).
- For carriageway and an area immediately adjacent to it (for a distance of 0.45m (1ft 6 inches)) minimum headroom of 5.2m (17ft).

In both cases, all the vegetation should be cut back vertically. See the diagrams below.

Trimming over footpath



Trimming over footpath and roadway



YPF

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Every Friday
during term-time

6 - 7.30pm

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**YPF is now meeting on Zoom
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soon.**

For more information contact

Richard Hilliard

M: 07717392628

E: richard@billinghamybaptistchapel.co.uk

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QUIZZES

*ANSWERS TO
BIG QUESTIONS*

The Light House

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REALLY all about

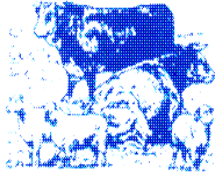
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during term time

7.45-9.15pm

Billingham Baptist Chapel

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BUS SERVICES - LINCOLNSHIRE

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.



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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
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 steve.carrydye@gmail.com Sandra Tomley 01526 861797
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) .
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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	Annual	£38.00
Half Page	"One-off"	£20.00
	Annual	£65.00
Full Page	"One-off"	£25.00
	Annual	£90.00
Flyers	Insert your own	£10.00
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PRICE ON APPLICATION FOR 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 January/February 2021 issue of the Newsletter. Specific individual details can be given to relations who may request them via the Parish Office.

1916

Throughout 1915 the Germans had been on the defensive, apart from an attack at Ypres in April where poison gas was used for the first time. The Allies were initially taken by surprise, but they recovered quickly and great harm was done to the German cause by the adverse publicity they received. All the Allied attacks had been unsuccessful, but this had all been part of the learning process about this new form of warfare.

The new year was to see some of the most ferocious fighting of the whole war. It had become clear that artillery was to be the key to successful attacking. Before the war the shells had been mainly shrapnel, but it was now obvious that high explosive would be needed to destroy barbed wire and trenches. New artillery techniques had to be formulated and, with the poor communications available at the time, this was to prove very difficult. Also, by 1915 the bulk of the army consisted of untrained volunteers commanded by officers who had yet to learn their trade.

By the end of 1915, the British Army on the western front consisted of 38 divisions but there were plans for a further 19 divisions to be in France by July 1916. This would put the combined strength of the Allies at 158 divisions against 117 German divisions. Haig wanted to attack the Germans in Flanders, but Joffre favoured a joint attack on the Somme. They thought they had plenty of time and planned the attack for the middle of the year. Forty French divisions would attack south of the Somme and twenty - five British divisions to the north of it. But the Germans had plans of their own.

By the end of 1915, although the Germans had been victorious on all fronts, the end of the war had been brought no nearer. It was true that the French Army was very tired, but the British Army was, for the most part, fresh. In addition, the British naval blockade of Germany was still unbroken and increasing amounts of supplies were being brought from America.

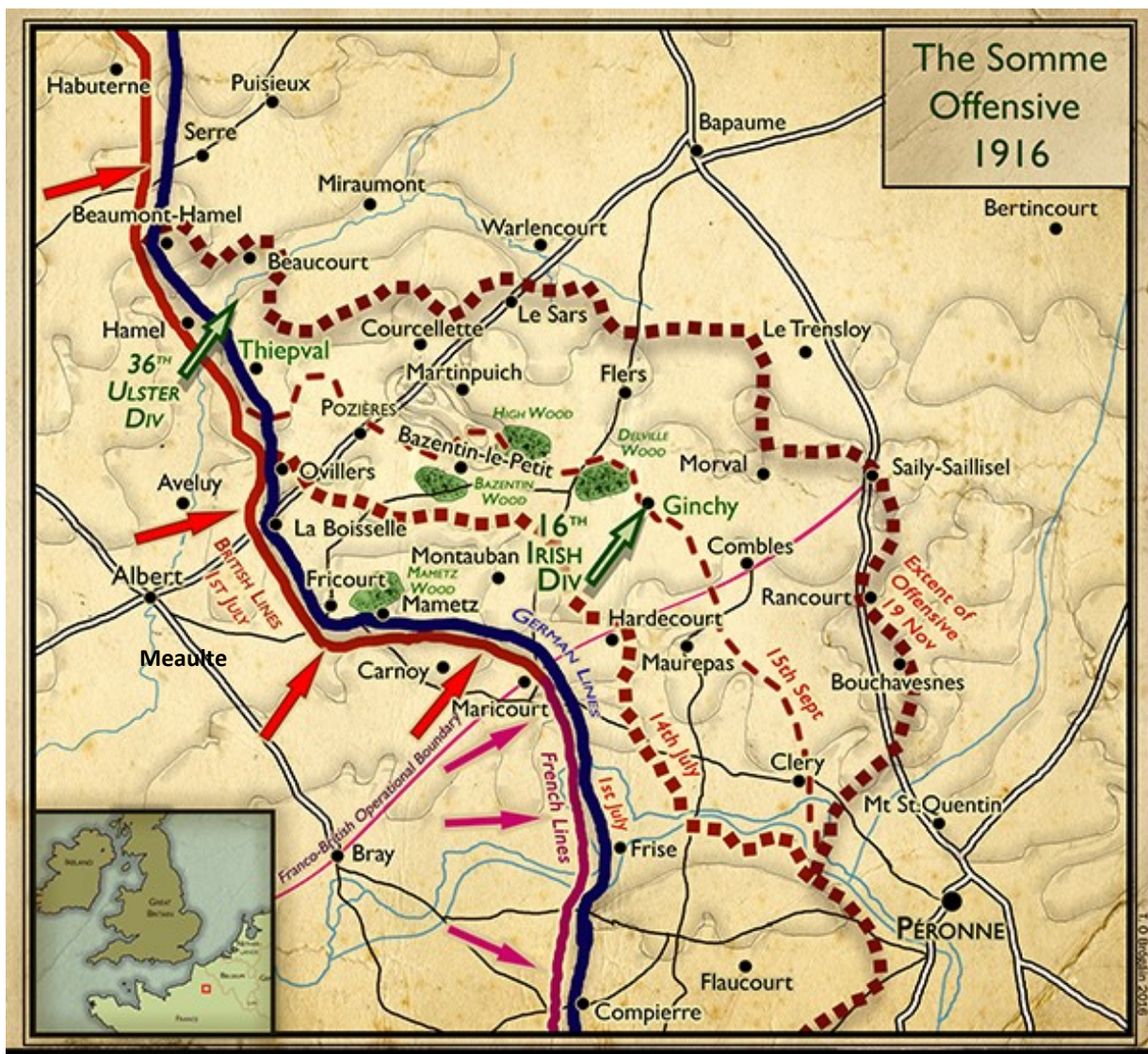
The German general Falkenhayn was urging unrestricted submarine warfare, but at the

same time believed that if he could defeat the French then Britain would be forced to sue for peace. He therefore proposed a massive attack on the fortress of Verdun. Verdun was not strategically important, and it could be argued that the French would be in a better position without it, but Falkenhayn believed that Joffre would find it politically impossible to give any more ground and in this he guessed correctly.

The German attack started on 21st February and was to last to December. In the process the Germans gained a few kilometres of ground and lost in the region of 424,000 men, whilst the French lost about 550,000 men, most of them killed. At one time 115 divisions were crammed into a front which was only about five miles wide. Falkenhayn was right in his view that the French would not give ground, but in his attempts to bleed the enemy dry he was doing the same to his own army.

Joffre asked Haig to extend his share of the line and at the same time the date of the Somme attack was brought forward one month. The French contribution to the attack was reduced by fifteen divisions, making twenty - five divisions each, and then further reduced leaving only five French divisions.

The choice of the Somme area for a major attack was a strange one, as there was no strategic advantage to be gained in the area and the Germans had had ample time to build extremely strong fortifications which would protect them from even the heaviest bombardment. The British force was not well trained and was encouraged to believe that would only have to walk over the German lines. In this they were sadly mistaken.



The battle was preceded by a preliminary bombardment on an eighteen mile front which lasted for five days, the main effect of which was to destroy the ground over which the troops would advance. The deep dugouts had been unaffected, large amounts of barbed wire remained intact and at the end of the bombardment the Germans emerged from their shelters to cut down the attackers in their thousands. The British casualties on the first day amounted to sixty thousand, of which twenty thousand were dead, the heaviest one - day loss suffered by any army in the war. The battle continued for another four months and resulted in a gain of about ten miles. Total casualties were thought to be about 600,000 on the British side and probably just a little less for the Germans.

The first Billingham casualty in 1916 was **Arthur William Muffitt** who died on Saturday 19th February. This was another of the names that were initially difficult to find. We could find no Arthur Muffitt in the casualty lists, but did find an Arthur William Muffett, Private 12718, 7th Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment and this spelling is also recorded on the North Kyme Memorial. Muffitt is also the spelling used on the Register of Honour in the church. The 1901 census lists a William and Charlotte Muffitt and a son Arthur (sic) aged six years living in Gedney which may well be the correct family.

The 7th Battalion, the Lincolnshire regiment sailed for France on 14th July 1915 and went to the front line just near Ypres for the first time on 28th July. For the next seven months they were in and out of the line. In February the Battalion moved to an area of the salient called the Bluff (see map) and on 7th February 1916 the Battalion was in trenches west of Voormzeele and St Eloi. The Bluff was a good observation point but was difficult to defend as the Germans still held the margins.

On 15th February the Lincolns were in positions on the crest of the Bluff and the trenches to the north of it up to "The Ravine" which was held by the Germans. They attacked with bombing parties, but casualties were heavy due to shellfire. The attack continued, but no progress was made. However, the Lincolns held their positions and were relieved on 17th February. Casualties in the period 14th to 17th February were 1 officer and 25 other ranks killed and 7 officers and 71 other ranks wounded and 3 missing. It is believed that Arthur Muffitt was wounded at this time. He died on 19th February 1916 and is buried in Etaples Cemetery, Pas de Calais.

Also in the 7th Battalion, the Lincolnshire Regiment was Fred Martin. His full name was **John Frederick Thorne Martin**. He was born in 1896, the son of John and Annie Martin. They had a total of ten children, the eldest being George who was born in 1894 and the youngest Les, born in 1912. The Martin family lived in the "Ferry Boat" public house, later renamed "The Captain's Table" and now a private house, which stands across the river from Dogdyke station and the "Packet Inn". He was the uncle of Sam Martin of High Street, Billingham. John Martin operated the ferry which crossed the river Witham to where the "Packet Inn" stands. Sam remembers the fare being one and a half old pennies for a person with a bicycle. When the war broke out in 1914 George, who worked on the railways, joined the Royal Engineers and John (Fred) joined the 7th Battalion, the Lincolnshire Regiment. Jack (see below) who was only 16 at that time was too young to enlist.

After the death of Arthur Muffitt, the 7th Battalion was withdrawn from the trenches to Reninghelst and from 20th to 29th February were near Ouderdom. The last Major action by the battalion before John's death was an action to regain the ground lost on 14th February. A full-scale model of the Bluff had been made and, together with the 10th Sherwood Foresters, they practised the forthcoming attack.

On 1st March the Battalion again moved into the front line. At 4 am on the 2nd March parties of men crawled forward lying down near the German wire. Immediately the barrage stopped the Lincolns attacked taking the Germans completely by surprise. The attack was successful, but at 9 30 am the enemy opened up an extremely heavy artillery bombardment. The battalion had suffered heavy casualties and at 10 pm on 3rd March they were relieved.

It is thought that John was wounded in this attack and asked a friend to finish him off. The friend was taken prisoner and told John's family about this after the war. John must have suffered as he remained in the open for four days and during this time it snowed heavily. On 6th March he was brought in and later transferred to the Etaples Canadian Field Hospital.

Three telegrams were received in Chapel Hill on Friday 24th March 1916; the first to say that John had been wounded in action, the second to say he was gravely ill, followed by a third informing the family of his death. He is buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. His name appears on the Chapel Hill War Memorial and also on the Roll of Honour in Billingham Church. There were no more casualties until the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

George Maplethorpe Private 15306, 1st Battalion the Lincolnshire Regiment died on Saturday 1st July 1916. He was the son of Jabez Maplethorpe, a farmer of the Second Hurn, Billingham and Elizabeth Maplethorpe. Twelve years old at the time of the 1901 Census, he was the eldest of a family of six including Sarah 9, Florrie 8, Agubah 5, Henry 2, and Jackson aged 1.

The 1st Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment took part in the opening day of the Battle of the Somme. The Battalion was part of the 62nd Brigade, which in turn was part of the 21st Division. They were in reserve at Meaulte during the first attack supplying troops for carrying purposes. At 8 am they left Meaulte detailed to carry small arms ammunition, Mills grenades and Stokes Mortar Bombs. At 1 30 pm the carrying parties began to cross No Man's Land to the captured German front line and from there to a dump on the sunken road which is now the Fricourt/Contalmaison road. Once their loads had been dumped, they returned to the old German front line. At 6 pm they were ordered to reinforce the 64th brigade and consequently moved up to Crucifix Trench where they consolidated. Total casualties for the 1st Battalion were 9 officers wounded, three other ranks killed, one hundred and five wounded and two missing. George Maplethorpe was one of the missing. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

The second local man to lose his life on the Somme was **James Mason**, Private 202227, 1st/5th Battalion the West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) who died on Sunday 3rd September 1916 aged 21 years. James was the son of George and Elizabeth Mason of Tattershall Bridge, Lincoln. The 1901 Census shows George Mason as a farm foreman and Elizabeth Mason living at Thorpe Tilney. At that time they had 3 sons: George aged 17, Richard aged 14 and James aged 6. I have been unable to find any further details of James but will continue to investigate. I do know that there was a Mason family living in Tattershall Bridge in the 1980s, but they have moved and I do not know if there was any connection with James. James has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

The fighting on the Somme continued and saw the death of **Joseph Bavin**, Private 40060, 2nd Battalion the Lincolnshire Regiment on 23rd October 1916 aged 33 years. Joseph was the son of William, a farm labourer (b.1841) and Harriett (b.1844). They had lived in Church Street, but in 1901 they were living in Keys Cottages, Billingham. The

Commonwealth War Graves Commission states that Joseph was the husband of Ruth Bavin of 65, Shaw Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

On 16th October 1916 the 2nd Battalion, the Lincolnshire Regiment moved to the Citadel Camp at Meaulte on the Somme just south of Albert and went into the front line on 19th October. They moved forward through Trones Wood west of Guillemont where they stopped for dinner, moving forward again at 4 15 pm. The regimental history states that there was mud and water everywhere and a cold wind blowing.

On the night of 19th/20th they took over trenches at Les Boeufs, about two miles or so south of Bapaume, which were opposite a salient formed by two German trenches, Zenith and Eclipse. The British trenches were in a very poor condition, and it was impossible to make any improvements due to the heavy shelling which was taking place. The attack was due to begin at 9 30 pm on 23rd, but due to fog was postponed until 2 30 pm.

Following a creeping barrage, the Lincolns moved forward flanked on the left by the 2nd by 2nd Middlesex and on the right by the 2nd Rifle Brigade. They were so close to the barrage that one officer and several men were wounded by shrapnel. Unfortunately, because of the damage to Eclipse Trench the Zenith trench was packed with Germans and the first wave of Lincolns were mown down, almost to a man. The second wave also failed to make progress. Information was received that the 2nd Lincolns had been wiped out. This was not quite true, but after the action out of a starting strength of 16 officers and 470 men, only 3 officers and 200 men remained. At 5 pm the battalion was ordered back to Brigade Support. Joseph Bavin was missing. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

One week later, on 27th October 1916, **Leo William Rippin** Private 27287, 1st Battalion Kings Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) aged 24 was killed. Leo was the son of Edward and Annie Rippin who lived at 1, Victoria Terrace, Billinghamay. Dennis Rippin of the Wyche was his nephew. Dennis was unable to remember much of what his mother had told him about her brother, but he did remember being told that Leo was opening a Red Cross parcel and was about to share the contents with two of his comrades who were brothers when they were all killed by a shell. I have visited the cemetery but could not find a record of two brothers buried there. Leo is buried in the Grove Town Cemetery, Meaulte. The gravestone bears the following inscription: -

RECORD HIS NAME
IT IS HIS DUE
REMEMBER THAT
HE DIED FOR YOU

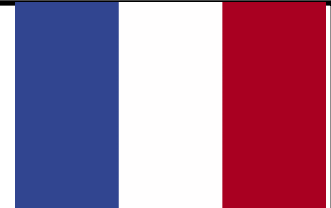
The name on the Billinghamay Memorial is incorrectly spelt RIPPON; furthermore, the Register of Honour in the Church records Leo as serving in the Lincolnshire Regiment, which would seem incorrect, although it is possible that he originally served with the Lincolns, was wounded and then was allocated to another regiment.

BILLINGHAY COMMUNITY GROUP

For obvious reasons the Community Garden project has had to be put on hold due to the Covid19 restrictions. However, a lot of the basic groundwork has been done and it is hoped that the final drive to finish the project will start in the near future.



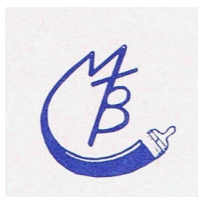
BILLINGHAY & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION



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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Billinghay Athletic FC Minihays

We will be restarting youth training every Saturday **starting May 1st**.

We are offering training for both girls and boys aged between **4 and 12**.

Training sessions run every Saturday 10:30-11:30am.

We are offering training, skills, exercise and fun!!!!

£2 per session

You will need suitable footwear and a drink.

Contact details:

Nathan (Club secretary) 01526 861144 or
07824600798

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.

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.



A TRUCKLOAD OF



B.A.D.Ass



An evening of music, singing and comedy



***Saturday 10th July 2021
The Coach and Horses
Billinghay***

Tickets £5 (adults only) available from
Katie: **07799617674** , The Coach and Horses
or any B.A.D.Ass member

**The show will start @7:00pm. If you would like a meal
prior to the show please book directly with
The Coach and Horses **01522 700651**.**
This is an outdoor event with covered seating if needed.

There will be a full report of this event in our next issue



Major life events, like loss of work and death, change everything and put a strain on your finances. These changes have a ripple effect on most other areas of your life, so you should have a plan in place for such eventualities. Below are ways for protecting the family against financial turmoil in case of unfortunate events.

1. Life Insurance Everybody needs life insurance; it doesn't matter whether you are 30 or 75. Life insurance is essential because it replaces your income by covering their living expenses if the unthinkable happens. The three main types of life insurance coverage to choose from are: Whole of Life Insurance Policy: It offers life-long protection for your dependants, provided you keep up with the premiums. However, it is far more expensive than term life insurance. Term Life Assurance: It only guarantees death benefits for the term of your policy. It is cheaper and simple without bells and whistles. Critical Illness Cover: This supports families when they need it most and will pay out on the diagnosis of certain conditions.

2. Create a Will Dying without a Will leaves everything in the hands of the Government, with set rules for who will benefit, and it may not be who you want. They also pick a legal guardian for your children and a manager for your assets if the children are underage. These choices may not always align with your ideas, so it is better to have it all formalised.

3. Save It is always better to be safe than sorry. Thus, start saving early for emergencies that come up and for big purchases and payments. Start early to enjoy the power of compound interest.

4. Organise Your Documents and Communicate Your Plans It is not enough to plan for unpredictable times; you also need to communicate your financial planning efforts to your dependents. This helps to eliminate surprises when your Will is read. List down your bank accounts, digital assets, retirement accounts, plus account numbers and other information needed to access these accounts. Also, list all your debts, including credit cards, insurances, and mortgages.

Bottom Line Taking care of these things now makes difficult times easier and more manageable for your family. In addition to taking the above steps, do not forget to keep your Will and documents updated and current. For more information on how to start protecting your family if the unexpected happens give me a call.



Chartered

**THE STREET LAMP, 8-12 SOUTH STREET,
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AUTHORISED & REGULATED BY THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY

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 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 6.30 to 8.00pm

Additional Services available at Billinghay Children's Centre
If you would like any further information on the Services available at the Children's Centre, please ask a member of staff.

Billinghay Children's Centre is part of North Kesteven South Children's Centres which also include:

Sleaford: 01529 306888 and Caythorpe: 01400 279285

Skills Development Service: Works with parents who want to make positive changes for themselves and their families. The service offers encouragement and practical support with trying new things and getting more involved, often leading to Learning, Training, Volunteering and Employment.

Quiet Time: Opportunities are available for families to use the Children's Centre resources on a small group or 1:1 basis. Please call the Centre to find out more.

Keepsakes: The opportunity for families to make a variety of 'keepsake' items with their children and to get to know the Children's Centre team and what we can offer. Please speak to a member of staff to find out more.

ESCO Service: A scheme to co-ordinate the care for children and young people from birth to 18 years, who have complex health needs, sensory needs and/or disabilities.

Our Health Services

Health Visitor Clinic: There are many different health professionals within the Centre, delivering services such as midwifery and health visiting clinics. A health visitor clinic includes 6-8 week, 8-12 months and 2-2.5 year's assessments as well as 3-4 month contact.

Breast Start Group: Come and join us in a relaxed, friendly environment, chat and meet other breastfeeding mums and get some support and advice. A member of the health visiting team supports the group along with a parent volunteer. Pregnant ladies also welcome. To book please contact the Health Visiting Team on 01522 843 000.

Top Tips for Babies: Join the family health worker for discussions on subjects like when to introduce solids, healthy eating, oral health, accident prevention, immunisation, how to access support and more. To book please contact the Health Visiting Team on 01522 843 000.

Billinghay Children's Centre WHAT'S ON GUIDE



Timetable 7th June onwards

Billinghay Children's Centre

Fen Road

Billinghay LN4 4HU

Telephone: 01526 869248

E-mail:

Billinghaychildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Opening Times

Mon-Thurs: 8.30-17.00

Friday: 8.30-16.30




 Like us on Facebook to stay in touch
North Kesteven Children's Centre's South

For all up to date information please go to our web pages at:
<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/childcare-and-family-support/find-a-childrens-centre/>



Booking will not open until 8am the day after the session, any booking received prior to this can't be considered

Billingham Children's Centre Timetable (Free Family Activities) Tel: 01526 869248 Email: billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk				
Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
<p>9.30am - 10.00am Virtual Rhyme Time (For children aged 0-5yrs) To register Click here</p> <p>Please Note Booking will not open until 8am the day after the session, any booking received prior to this can't be considered</p>	<p>10.15am - 10.45am Virtual Skills Development Service - Now Can We Help? To register Click here</p> <p>10.30am - 11.00am Virtual Chat and Chill Volunteer-led Group (Term Time Only) Delivered by Parent Volunteers To register Click here</p>	<p>9.30am - 10.00am Virtual Rhyme Time (For children aged 0-5yrs) To register Click here</p> <p>10.00am - 11.00am Learning Together Toddler (Confident walkers) 6 week programme This session aims to support developing babies to grow and learn. Activities will encourage babies to reach their unique developmental milestones, following their interests and curiosities billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk to book</p>	<p>10.15am - 10.45am Virtual Rhyme Time Delivered by the N/5K team To register Click here</p> <p>10.00am - 11.00am Outdoor Let's Get Active (For children 0-5 years) This is a fun active session offering a variety of activities to support children's physical development and promote a healthy life style. During the session a variety of fun learning opportunities will be offered to support the development of children's gross motor skills, co-ordination and teach them that being active is fun. billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk to book</p> 	<p>10.30am - 11.00am Virtual Growing Talk (For children aged 0-5yrs) To register Click here</p> <p>10.00am - 11.00am Learning Through Play (For children 0-5 years) This session provides a variety of activities for children to explore supporting children's changing needs and interests, the session offers an opportunity for parents, carers and children to discover and explore a wide range of play activities together, encouraging children's independence, confidence and social skills. billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk to book</p>
<p>Please read We appreciate that families may be disappointed if they are unable to access the session but we must continue to ensure everyone's safety is a priority. If you are unable to attend the session of your choice, please do ask for details of other sessions on offer that may be of interest to you.</p> <p>2.00pm - 2.30pm Virtual - The Early Days (For babies born during Covid-19) To register Click here Delivered by The N/5K Team</p>	<p>1.00pm - 1.30pm Virtual Rhyme Time (For children aged 0-5yrs) To register Click here</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm Virtual Preparation for Parenting Sessions run fortnightly To start your registration process for our Zoom sessions, please email: beststart@evalliance.org.uk</p>	<p>10.15am - 10.45am Virtual - The Early Days (For babies born during Covid-19) To register Click here Delivered by The N/5K Team</p>	<p>12.30pm - 1.30pm Virtual GROW Year One Confidence 4-week course Please email: beststart@evalliance.org.uk to find out more or when the next course begins</p>
<p>2.00pm - 2.30pm Virtual - The Early Days (For babies born during Covid-19) To register Click here Delivered by The N/5K Team</p>	<p>1.00pm - 2.00pm Stay and Play under 1's (Not yet walking) This session aims to support developing babies to grow and learn. Activities will encourage babies to reach their unique developmental milestones, following their interests and curiosities billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk to book</p>	<p>Please read For the majority of Centres we are taking bookings via e-mail only and spaces are allocated in order of receipt of request. We aim to offer services to as many families as possible which means if you have attended a Centre one week, you may not be successful in securing a place the next week. We are following government guidelines which means we still have to reduce the number of people in buildings. We are continually reviewing guidance and will look to add sessions when and where we are able as we want to give as many early years children as possible the opportunity to experience being with their peer</p>	<p>1.00pm - 2.00pm Learning Together Babies (Babies to confident movers) 6 week programme This session aims to support developing babies to grow and learn. Activities will encourage babies to reach their unique developmental milestones, following their interests and curiosities billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk to book</p>	<p>1.00pm - 2.00pm Learning Together Babies (Babies to confident movers) 6 week programme This session aims to support developing babies to grow and learn. Activities will encourage babies to reach their unique developmental milestones, following their interests and curiosities billinghamchildrenscentre@lincolnshire.gov.uk to book</p>

IMPORTANT: THIS TIMETABLE IS VERY MUCH SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO THE ONGOING RESTRICTIONS DUE TO COVID19. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU KEEP CHECKING THE CHILDRENS CENTRE NOTICE BOARD AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION

Please book on using the web link on our virtual session timetable or contact your local centre for more information by email
Please note that the use of mobile phones and cameras are NOT permitted in the centre. Thank you



BILLINGHAY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

At the time of writing we have just begun the last half term of another school year. I am not quite sure where all the time goes and we have a lot to pack into a few weeks before we break up for the summer holidays on the 21st July.

Our Year 6 children are starting swimming lessons on Monday 14th June. Although it has been a different last year in primary education for them, we are still planning for a pool party (organised by parents/carers) and an end of year production (hopefully performed live to parents/carers).

Sports Day has been pencilled in for July and we hope to invite parents/carers into school.

Children from across school have taken part in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) week which included many remote sessions with scientists and engineers to develop career aspirations in the field of science. Many of our older children now wish to be marine biologists after an incredibly inspiring talk by a marine biologist. The Y5/6 children have accessed a remote tour of the Houses of Parliament which linked to their Crime and Punishment topic.

In June, school have arranged for a STEM ambassador from Siemens to deliver a presentation followed by a question and answer session, remotely, as part of International Woman Day in Engineering. The aim is to inspire all pupils, but particularly girls, for future career opportunities in engineering.

Each class will be carrying out work in June 2021 linked to The National Centre for Craft and Design's 'Becoming a Community Environmental Champion'. This will culminate in an ECO Day at school on the 23rd June where each class will select a theme such as climate change, plastic pollution, global warming or carbon footprints and design posters, a placard or video to highlight awareness of the human impact on the environment and the need for us to take action. These will be submitted to the NCCD in Sleaford as part of their competition.

Miss Hall has contacted Bulbs4kids and managed to secure 400 flower bulbs which our pupils plan to plant around Billingham after agreement from the Parish Council.

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception children and parents for September to school. Hopefully we can arrange for a visit into school before the end of term. We are hugely oversubscribed for September 2021 and thank everyone for choosing our school for their children.

I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support in what has been a challenging year and we look forward to continued success in the final term of the school year.

With best wishes,
Mr R Allen, Headteacher

THE LATEST QUIZ



For this issue's quiz, we are testing you with some Lincolnshire expressions and words in one or more of the various local dialects.

1. Dumplin dust
2. Jerusalem Nightingale
3. Clam
4. Chamber-lees
5. Kelter
6. Maddocks
7. Muckender
8. Tatie trap[
9. Wench faaced
10. Pot-noddles

Answers to last issue's quiz

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Australia | 2. Austria |
| 3. Italy | 4. India |
| 5. Sweden | 6. Vietnam |
| 7. Russia | 8. Ireland |
| 9. Thailand | 10. South Africa |

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BYGONES

WE ARE STILL SHORT OF OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF RESIDENTS AND WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE SOME MORE FOR PUBLICATION. WE ARE, THEREFORE, CONTINUING TO PUBLISH OLD PHOTOS OF BILLINGHAY WITH A PHOTO OF THE SAME LOCATION AS IT LOOKS NOW.





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NEXT ISSUE September/October 2021 – DEADLINE DATE – 10 August