

The Billingham Times & Advertiser

bpc | Billingham
Parish
Council

Issue No 02/26

March / April 2026

Billingham Parish Office:

07483 346143

info@billingham-pc.gov.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**

COFFEE CLUB HELPING TO SAVE THE SWIMMING POOL

What a night! A huge thanks to Tina and the Billingham Thursday Coffee Club and all that helped at the Wine & Wisdom evening, the church for donating the hall, everyone that made food and Robert who was an awesome quiz master. Safe to say we didn't reveal any mastermind contestants but everyone had a laugh and the coffee club raised an amazing £555 for the pool which is a huge amount. Thank you again to everyone involved and everyone that came



PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Where: Methodist Chapel

When: 1st Monday of month

Time: 7.00pm

(except Bank Holidays)



See Parish Notice Boards for Committee Meetings

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

The Parish Office will be open on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 9.15am to 12.30pm.

Contact details are shown on the front page of this Newsletter

BILLINGHAY PARISH COUNCIL TEAM

Chairman: Andy Catlett

Vice Chair: Steve Cottrell

Parish Clerk: Helen Key

Parish Councillors: Roger Miller, Wendy Liles, Ann Vipond, Jane Ledger, Robert Greetham and Richard Sharratt

District Council Members: Sarah Anne Lawrence, Adrian Whittle

County Council Member: David East

Assistant Clerk & Newsletter Co-Ordinator: Lou Hird

Editor: Billingham Parish Council

Website: <https://billingham.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>



Billingham Parish Council

CHILDREN'S CENTRE & FIRE STATION DEFIBRILLATORS

Please note that the defibrillators located at the Children's Centre on Fen Road and the Fire Station, Mill Lane are maintained by the Billingham Parish Council.

If you notice any issues with either of the defibrillators, please contact the Parish Office.

Access to the equipment is obtained by dialling 999 and you will then be given a code to open the case.

A Thank You

I would like to thank all the people who came to help me when I fell in the Co-op carpark on November 1st and gave me support as we waited for an ambulance. I was very touched by the number of people who sent me Get Well cards and Christmas cards whilst I was away.

I am now back home and recovering having spent several weeks away mainly in the Scarborough Ward at Skegness Hospital. I am very grateful to all people who work on the ward who gave me wonderful care and I made many friends in there.

I hope to continue my recovery quickly and get back to rejoin all of the groups that I attend.

Shirley Hagger



Greater Lincolnshire Local Government Reorganisation

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) involves restructuring councils to improve efficiency and service delivery. In Greater Lincolnshire, this may involve creating one or more unitary councils.

Greater Lincolnshire refers to the combined area represented by Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, Boston Borough Council, City of Lincoln Council, East Lindsey District Council, North Kesteven District Council, South Holland District Council, South Kesteven District Council, West Lindsey District Council.

The government believes unitary councils can lead to better outcomes for residents, save significant money which can be reinvested in public services, and improve accountability with greater clarity over responsibilities.

In February 2025 the government wrote to councils in all existing two-tier areas to formally invite them to develop proposals for local government reorganisation.

Out of all of the 21 'Invitation Areas' nationally, Greater Lincolnshire is the biggest and most rural which has led to differing views on how best to deliver LGR here.

North and North East Lincolnshire Councils are part of the Yorkshire and Humber region and have different fire, police and health arrangements to the rest of Lincolnshire.

Given the size and scale there is no single set of local priorities, challenges, and opportunities that have led to the development of a number of proposals.

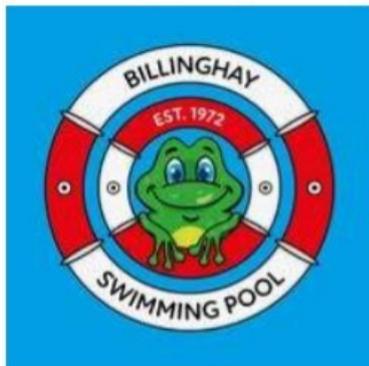
Each council shared their own ideas with the government, which were officially submitted in November 2025.

The government launched its consultation on Local Government Reorganisation in Greater Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire on Thursday 5 February 2026. The consultation invites views on all proposals submitted under the statutory invitation issued on 5 February 2025.

A full assessment of the proposals will take place by the government alongside the consultation to ensure all relevant evidence is considered together.

Full details of all four proposals can be found on the Greater Lincolnshire Local Government Reorganisation website at <https://www.greaterlincolnshirelgrhub.org/local-government-changes-greater-lincolnshire> , as well as timelines and **how to have your say**.

Billingham & District Community Swimming Pool



Planned reopening April 2026

Please support us by coming to our events, sharing our posts and donate if you're able to



Keep an eye on our Facebook page and on local notice boards for our upcoming events

Builders are booked and work has began.



The new style pool is on its way for an amazing summer of fun!



We need to hear what the community wants from the pool soo please get in contact with your ideas



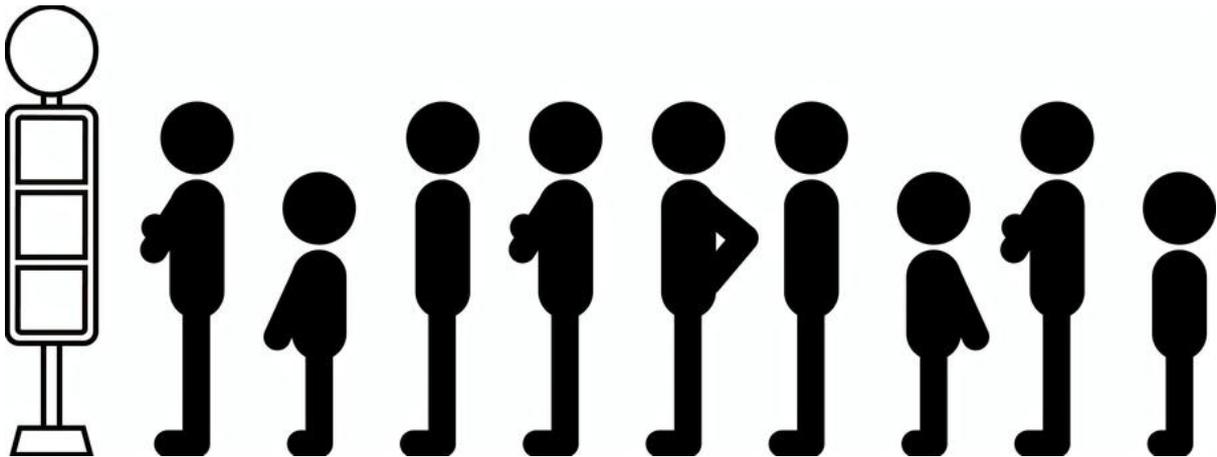
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BUSES IN BILLINGHAY



The petition for regular daily scheduled buses to run through Billinghay to connect us with Lincoln and Boston was delivered to Lincolnshire County Council in December.

In January I was contacted by the office of Andrea Jenkyns the Mayor of Greater Lincolnshire, thanking all the signatories for their input, adding that it was important that we make our voices heard.

Also in January another petition for a similar request for proper bus services from a group of people near Horncastle was delivered to Lincolnshire County Council.

The two petitions together have 1000 signatures!

Following an e-mail from the leader of Lincolnshire County Council, Sean Matthews, a meeting with myself and their lead petitioner has now been arranged for February 23rd at County Offices. We are meeting Councillor David East who now holds the portfolio for Highways and Transport. He is County Councillor for Billinghay and Heckington, is regularly at our Parish Council meetings and has always been very supportive of our efforts. I believe the Head of Transport may also be attending the meeting, plus other County Councillors. I will certainly make our feelings very clear and will demand all those holding power to consider our transport challenges very carefully.

However I'm pretty sure that no decisions will be made at that meeting. I believe that this may be a long campaign.

Apart from that news, I've also had contact with Brylaine buses, which already runs the B5 route connecting Boston and Lincoln. They met the Mayor at an inaugural meeting of the Transport Group for Lincolnshire Combined Authority. They reported the Dame Jenkyns is resolved to sort out rural public transport.

Before I wrote this I thought that nothing much had happened since my last update.....I was wrong!
Things are definitely happening.
Keep your fingers crossed for some positive outcomes from this important meeting on February 23rd.

Jane Ledger - Parish Councillor

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ADMIN - CHELSEA WIGGINS - 07401889342



Kids Parents and Tots



Tuesday (term time) 10.30 -12
North kyme village hall

contact Jackie 07939953850. Ann 01526 861504
or find us on facebook



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We want to understand what it's like to use health and care services if you have sight or hearing loss. Your feedback will help improve services and remove barriers. If this is you, or you care for someone who does, please share your experience.

Tell us what works for you

Complete our survey by:

- Visiting: lincolnshire.icb.nhs.uk/sensory-impairment
- Scanning the QR code



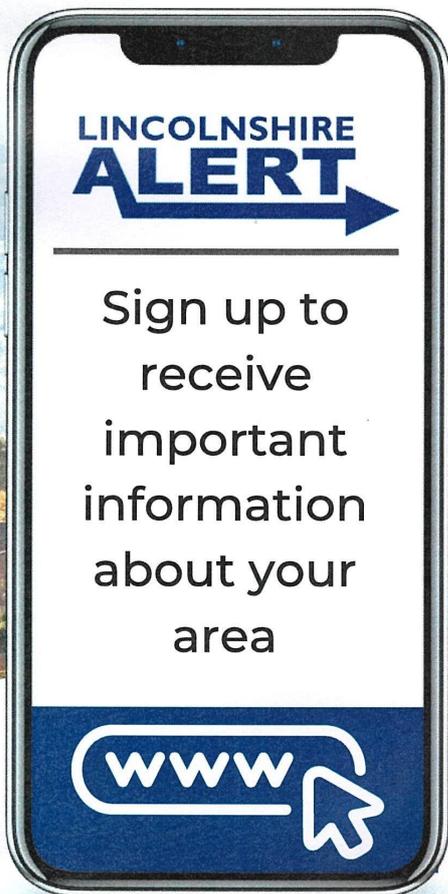
Alternatively, contact us by:

- **Phone or text:** 07814 939396 or **email:** licb.involveus@nhs.net

We can also visit your community group – **invite us at licb.involveus@nhs.net** – or have a conversation with you in person or over the phone.

Survey closes: 13th March

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Frauds and Scams

Fraud (also called scams) is when someone tricks or deceives you to gain something for themselves, usually money, goods, services or property. To find out more about fraud and scams, and take the short online training, visit the [Friends Against Scams](#) website

Fraudsters usually try to make contact with you through four different channels:

- Telephone. Never talk about money on the telephone to unsolicited callers.
- Doorstep sellers and traders. If you're not sure, don't open the door.
- Postal. If it sounds too good to be true, then it usually is.
- Internet. Do not to click on any links from unsolicited emails and move them straight to your "spam" folder (where any malicious links are automatically disabled).

Fraud and Scams Prevention Pack

The Fraud and Scams Prevention Pack has been created to empower communities to identify and report fraud, and prevent themselves from becoming victims of the crime.

With scams becoming ever more sophisticated, it is no longer just the elderly and vulnerable who are getting caught out.



The pack contains information and resources including fraud and scam prevention advice, how to report different types of fraud and guidance on online safety for children.

A free fraud pack can be requested by completing the online form at <https://survey.lincolnshirealert.co.uk/Survey/HASH/4F32D2A1240F246C3F3E63F19559AFE6> or going on to the Lincolnshire Police & Crime Commissioner web page and following the links.

A digital version of the pack can be downloaded from the site <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1az7dxmSaioGZ5gUvSkpJpptaofSfUdkyk>

Or contact the Parish clerk who can order packs.

Neighbourhood Policing Survey



Please let us (Lincolnshire Police) know the issues you want your Neighbourhood Policing Team to concentrate on.

Help us shape our policing priorities by completing a short survey that will take no more than two minutes: <https://forms.office.com/e/4Vj3348uBu>

Please share amongst your friends, family and local networks. Every response builds a picture of concerns within the community and evidences what we need to focus on.

The survey will remain open all the time so you can share your views with us at anytime.

Thank you - your feedback will be incredibly valuable.



Jc **JOE CARR**
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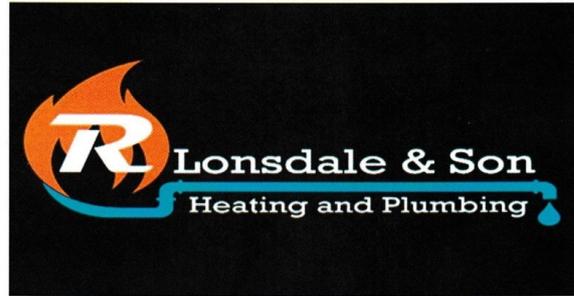
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TUESDAYS

Renew class: Tattershall Village Hall, 10.15am-11.15am (Tai Chi, Yoga, Pilates-based with relaxation)

Seated exercise: Tattershall Village Hall 2.30-3.30pm

Renew class: Walcott Village Hall, 7-8pm

THURSDAYS

Renew class: Scopwick Village Hall, 6.30-7.30pm

FRIDAYS

Renew class: Coningsby Community Hall, 10.15-11.15am followed by Tai Chi class 11.30am-12.30pm. (No experience necessary)

TO BOOK: EMAIL: INFO@WELLNESSLINC.COM



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<i>Wed-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>5-8</i>	
<i>Sun</i>	<i>12-10:30</i>	
<i>Traditional Sunday Lunch</i>	<i>12-2</i>	

We look forward to meeting you!!

B.A.D.Ass.
Billinghay Amateur Dramatics Association



It's The Stalk of the Town!

Love was in the air this Valentine's weekend, as Jack climbed the Beanstalk and rescued Princess Jill!

The BADAss annual pantomime has a special place in our village diary of events, a weekend of family entertainment, performed by members from our local communities. This year the success continued with our performances of Jack & The Beanstalk (written by Nick Lawrence) with all three shows sold out. Thank you to our wonderful audiences who came to watch, cheer, clap, boo and laugh – Pat the Cow really had mooooves like Jagger!

The cast and crew of BADAss began practicing and preparing for the pantomime in September. This year we welcomed several new cast members... they all performed confidently in their parts, delivered their lines right on cue and smiled their way through the songs. The cast thoroughly enjoyed the performances and are already looking forward to the next one.

Thank you to our supporters who donated prizes for the raffle, to The Ship for selling tickets & providing the venue for the 'after party', for those who were on the door, making tea, selling raffle tickets, setting up and clearing up. Finally, thank you to our families and friends for their continued support.





BILLINGHAY MEDICAL PRACTICE VETERAN CLINICS

Here at Billingham Medical Practice we
have designated clinics to support
veterans.

THE CLINICS ARE:

**12th MARCH
30th APRIL
8th MAY
18th JUNE
16th JULY
13th AUGUST
17th SEPTEMBER
15th OCTOBER
13th NOVEMBER
10th DECEMBER**

There is one designated
clinic a month run by one
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or physical health support,
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- Junior (14-16yr olds with a paying guardian/parent) £12 a month

Fob needed to access the gym (£10 deposit)

Contact Emma via Email or Facebook to arrange this.

Our gym booking feature is optional however class booking is essential via the website.

When there is a class or group session on, the gym is unavailable to use during that time.



HUDSON FITNESS

CONTACT INFO

Website- www.hudson.fit

Email- HUDSONFITNESS17@gmail.com

Facebook- Hudson Fitness

Instagram- [@HUDSONFITNESS17](https://www.instagram.com/HudsonFitness17)

LOCAL POLICE NEWS



SLEAFORD RURAL NORTH

Local Team:

Rachel Blackwell - Inspector

Stuart Mumby-Croft - Sergeant

Chris Green - Constable

Most Commonly Reported Crimes - December 2025

Anti-social behaviour	9
Criminal Damage & Arson	4
Burglary	4
Violence and Sexual Offences	24

CRIME LEVELS 12 MONTHS ENDING 31/05/2025

MONTH	NUMBER	% OF TOTAL
Jan 25	48	8.1%
Feb 25	43	7.2%
Mar 25	43	7.2%
Apr 25	45	7.6%
May 25	58	9.7%
Jun 25	32	5.4%
Jul 25	63	10.6%
Aug 25	53	8.9%
Sep 25	51	8.6%
Oct 25	55	9.2%
Nov 25	53	8.9%
Dec 25	52	8.7%

Priorities:

- Youth anti-social behaviour 31 October 2025

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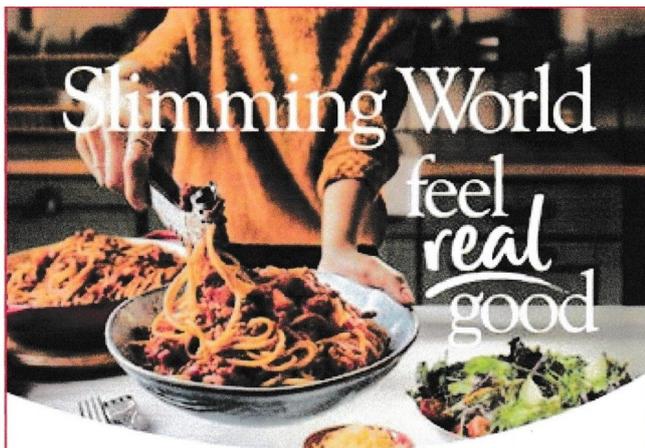
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Horncastle Community Centre • Tuesdays 9.30am
Karen 07900 062 817

Woodhall Spa Coronation Hall • Tuesdays
5.30pm and 7pm - Karen 07900 062 817

Tattershall Village Hall • Wednesdays 7.30am, 9am & 10.30am
Jo 07825 728 195

Coningsby Community Hall
Wednesdays 4pm, 5.30pm & 7pm

Jo 07825 728 195

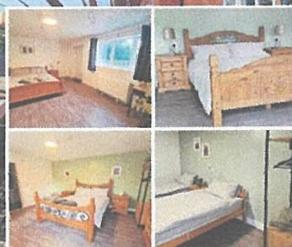
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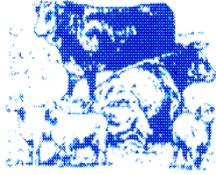
WalcottLodges@gmail.com

REGULAR MEETINGS

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

B.A.D.ASS	Thursdays	7.00pm Ship or Village Hall Phone Kate 07799617674 for info
Bingo	Monday	1.30pm The Whyche
Bowls (Indoor)	Monday	2.00 to 4.00pm Village Hall
British Legion	1st Wednesday every 2 months	Ship Inn 7.30pm Phone Stephen 07766186615 for info.
Brownies	Wednesdays	5.30 to 7.00pm
Girl Guides	Wednesday	6.45 to 8.30pm
Keep Fit	Tuesdays	6.30 to 7.30pm
Lighthouse Club (Secondary School Children)	Alternate Fridays during term time	7.45 to 9.00pm
Market & Car Boot Sale	Sunday	From 6.30am Field - Coach & Horses
Methodist Lending Library	2nd Monday of each month	2.00 to 3.30pm
Night Owls Book Club	4th Thursday	7.30pm The Ship
Rainbows	Tuesdays	5.30 to 6.30pm
YPF Children's Club	Friday during term time	6.00 to 7.00pm

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OPENING TIMES

OPEN

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CLOSED

Saturday
Sunday

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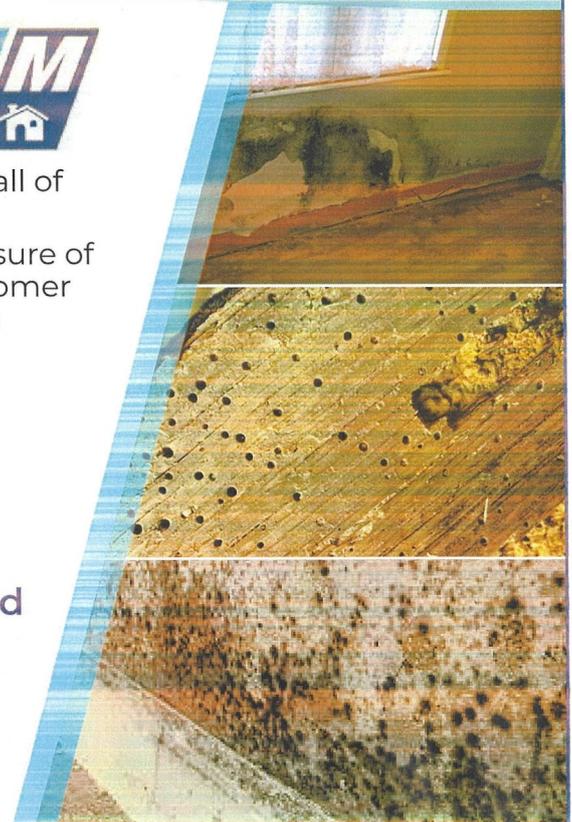
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Full Page	“One-off”	£25.00
	Annual	£90.00
Flyers	Insert your own	£10.00
	Inserted by us	£20.00

**PRICE ON APPLICATION FOR
OTHER SIZES**

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) Bethel Baptist Chapel	Thursdays at the Village Hall or Ship - please call 07799617674 for info. New members always welcome
Billinghay CEP School Billinghay Tuesday Club Bowls Club (Indoor) Bowls Club (Outdoor)	Sundays 10.30am & 6pm Tuesdays 7pm Pastor Richard Hilliard 07717392628 Club 8 to 9am Every School day in School Hall 1 st Tuesday of the month 7.30pm Pam Lupton 860106 Indoor Bowls start September every Monday Roll up each Sunday Morning 10.00am April - September Secretary Stephen Taylor Tel: 07766186615
British Legion	
Brownies (2nd Billingham) Children's Centre	Wednesdays 5.30 to 7.00pm Dawn Tulley 834324 Fen Road 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 12.00 Friday 869248 or 869271 Bookings John & Tina Toulson 07483156297 Pre-school Mon-Fri 9.00am to 3.00pm Billingham CofE School 07799 091281
Community Rooms Daisy Chain	Tuesdays (every 4 weeks) 2-5pm Shirley 860732 Wednesdays 6.45pm Contact Nicki 07527 176757
Darby & Joan Girl Guides	Fortnightly at 7.45 to 9.00pm (during term time) Contact Richard on 07717392628 or email richard@billinghaybaptistchapel.co.uk
Lighthouse Youth Club	Bookings Sally Robinson 860930 Caretaker 860682 Schoolroom available with kitchen facilities £20 for 3 hours Sundays 10.30am Val 860614, 4th Thursday of month 7.30pm at the Ship Kylie Cozens History Group The Ship Inn (as advertised) Lou Hird 869086
Methodist Church	Tuesdays (Term Time) 5.30pm to 6.30pm Emma 07939 830742 billinghay.rainbows@gmail.com
Methodist Church Night Owls Book Club Past Times	1st/3rd Sundays 9.30am Holy Communion 4th Sunday 11.00am Holy Communion 5th Sunday United Service - please see noticeboard near Church gate to check place of worship. Contact Tina or Mick on 860069 or brommell@hotmail.com First Tuesday every month 7.30pm Community Rooms Chairman Tina Toulson 01526 860262 Bookings June Davies 861652
Rainbows (Girls 5 to 7)	Office Hours 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Thursday and 10.00am to 1.00pm Friday Tel 01507 609535 (also 24hr Emergency)
St Michael's and All Angels Church	Every Friday at 6.00 to 7.30pm during term time Contact Richard on 07717392628 or email richard@billinghaybaptistchapel.co.uk
Tennis Club Tuesday Club Twinning Association Village Hall Voluntary Car Service	
YPF Children's Club	

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Craft

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Quizzes

Primary School

Games

CHALLENGES

Secondary School

FOOD

SPORTS

The Light House

7.45 – 9.00pm

Fortnightly

during term time

(get in touch for precise dates)

ANSWERS TO BIG QUESTIONS

Bethel

BAPTIST CHAPEL



Richard Hilliard: 07717392628

richard@billinghaybaptistchapel.co.uk



BILLINGHAY DOG PADDOCK



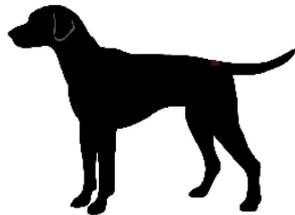
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DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

Forthcoming Events:

Meetings:

24 March 2026 2.00 - 5.00pm
21 April 2026 2.00 - 5.00pm

Outings:

7 April 2026 Baytree Nurseries
6 May 2026 We'll Meet Again Museum. Freiston Shore
2 June 2026 Stamford or Lincoln
30 June 2026 Jug & Bottle Carvery and Sutton on Sea

**Anyone wishing to join Meetings or Outings, please contact Shirley on
01526 860732 or 07903008308 (Mobile)**

JUMBLE SALE

In aid of DARBY & JOAN CLUB outings

11 APRIL 2026

9.00am to 12.00 noon

at the

CHURCH COMMUNITY ROOMS

**GOOD JUMBLE, BRIC-A-BRAC,
TOMBOLA, RAFFLE
CAKE STALL**

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits etc. served all morning.

ALL WELCOME

BILLINGHAY TUESDAY CLUB

Meetings are held in the Church Rooms, Billingham - 7.30pm start

3 March 2026	Rotary Club	Anne Mills
7 April 2026	Corn Dollies	Angela Reilly
5 May 2026	Bread & Cheese	Adam O'Meara

☀️ 2026 COFFEE MORNINGS



Billinghay Methodist Church
10 to 11:30am

Sat. 18th April...for Billinghay & District Community Swimming Pool



**Sat. 20th June & Sat. 17th October...
for Billinghay Methodist Church**

**Refreshments,
cakes, raffle and more...
WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU!**



LENDING LIBRARY & LUNCH



Billinghay Methodist Church
2nd Monday of every month
(09.02, 09.03, 13.04, 11.05, 08.06)

12 to 2.00pm

Soup lunch at 12:30pm (£2)
Books, DVDs & jigsaws to borrow
Refreshments available
'Bring your own craft' corner

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OR FOR THE WHOLE SESSION
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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 25 – March 26

Monday Route 2 & 4 (Rural North)

April	May	June	July	August	September
7th	-	2nd 30th	28th	-	22nd
October	November	December	January	February	March
20th	17th	15th	12th	9th	9th

**Sorry no service on Bank Holidays*

The mobile library stops at the following places:

Community	Stop	Arrive	Depart
Billingham	Library Site High St Page's Yard	13.15	14.45
Billingham	Spa Shop Premier Stores	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



Lincolnshire Children's Centre

What's on

Our centres offer free services for families from pregnancy to 5 years, including antenatal education, baby massage, early years sessions and play ideas in the home.

Scan me



Billingham



Billinghay Children's Centre

AM/ PM	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM	<p>Little Explorers 0 to 5 years 10am -11am</p>	<p>Pop in and Play 0 to 5 years 9.30am – 11am</p>	<p>Pop in and Play Under 1s 9.30am – 11am</p> <p>Breast Start from Pregnancy and Breastfeeding 11.15am – 12.30pm Held at Sleaford CC</p>	<p>Pop in and Play 0 to 5 years 9.30am – 11am</p> <p>Breast Start from Pregnancy and Breastfeeding 9.30am – 10.45am This takes place the first and third Thursday of the month.</p>	<p>Moving On Up! 0 to 5 years 10am – 11am</p>	
PM	<p>Recovery College – 5 Ways to Wellbeing 1pm – 3pm</p> <p>Visit www.lpft.nhs.uk/recoverycollege for course details & online registration. Held at Sleaford CC</p>	<p>Early Explorers Under 1s 1.30pm-2.30pm</p> <p>#NO SESSION 3RD JUNE</p>	<p>Pop in and Play Under 2s 1.30pm – 3pm</p>	<p>Top Tips for Babies 3 to 4 months 10am-11am 19 June & 31 July Held at Sleaford CC</p> <p>Parent Carer Forums 11.30am – 1pm 26 June only Held at Sleaford CC</p>		

Please scan the QR code to get the most up to date timetable information and to find out more about your local children's centre





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 - Carbon Monoxide alarm fitting
 - Smoke & draught troubleshooting
- Landlord & homebuyer safety checks
 - Certificate of sweeping provided

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 TATTERSHALL VILLAGE HALL – THURSDAYS 11:15
CONTACT : FIONA 07824 554566
 fiona.barlow@moveitorloseit.co.uk



THE LATEST QUIZ

Identify the holiday destinations below from the clues given:

NO	CLUE	ANSWER
1.	Wise Bedfellow	
2.	Wander Eternally	
3.	2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64	
4.	Males of the species in front of a whale	
5.	You'll need this when you change locks	
6.	Zealot ran confused to this island	
7.	I came across a bigamist on the way here	
8.	BBBBBBBBBB	
9.	A Cornish Lavatory	
10.	Where Mr Hill slept	

Answers to last issue's quiz

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. 3 Blind Mice | 2. 3 Steps to Heaven |
| 3. 6 Zeroes in a Million | 4. 10 Years in a Decade |
| 5. 12 Signs of the Zodiac | 6. 12 Inches in a Foot |
| 7. 12 Dozen in a Gross | 8. 13 Baker's Dozen |
| 9. 13 Cards in a Suit | 10. 101 Dalmatians |



The Quiet Admin We All Put Off (and Why It Matters More Than We Think)

Most of us have a mental list of small tasks we keep meaning to get around to. Not urgent enough for today, but always hovering somewhere in the background. Filing paperwork. Updating contact details. Writing things down “just in case”. It’s the quiet admin of life — rarely discussed, often delayed, and surprisingly important.

This kind of admin doesn’t feel rewarding. There’s no visible outcome, no sense of progress, and no immediate benefit. Yet when something unexpected happens — illness, a family emergency, a sudden change in circumstances — these small, boring tasks suddenly become invaluable.

For many people, this admin is not just about documents, but about clarity. Knowing where important information is kept. Having a list of key contacts. Making sure someone else could step in if needed. It’s less about control, and more about reducing stress for ourselves and the people around us.

Personal finance quietly sits in this category too. Not in the sense of spreadsheets or complex decisions, but in simple awareness. Knowing roughly what comes in and what goes out. Understanding which bills are regular. Having a sense of where important financial documents are stored. These are not “money skills” — they are life skills.

What’s interesting is how often people only address these things during moments of change. Moving house. Retirement. Bereavement. A health scare. The admin didn’t suddenly become important — it always was. It just finally demanded attention.

In villages and close-knit communities, this matters even more. People often support one another in practical ways: collecting prescriptions, feeding pets, checking in on neighbours. When life admin is organised, it’s easier for others to help (and you to help others) because you have the time.

This isn’t about perfection or ticking every box. It’s about small steps. One drawer organised. One list written. One conversation had. The kind of quiet progress that doesn’t look impressive, but makes life noticeably easier.

Future-you, and the people around you, will almost certainly be grateful. And if you need help we have our ‘Just One Financial Thing’ e-Book full of tips. Drop an email and I will send you a free copy. And if you know someone who would like a paper copy let me know.



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WE HAVE BEGUN OUR TALKS FOR 2026 WITH AN INTERESTING PRESENTATION BY ONE OF OUR MEMBERS, PETER MARTIN, ABOUT LIFE IN KENYA. THIS TALK COMPLETED HIS EXPERIENCES OF THAT COUNTRY FOLLOWING AN EARLIER TALK ABOUT HIS LIFE THERE AS A CHILD GROWING UP.

WE HAVE A COMPLETE PROGRAMME OF TALKS LINED UP FOR 2026 AS DETAILED IN THE LAST ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER. THERE IS ONE CHANGE FROM THE LIST PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED. THE SEPTEMBER TALK HAS HAD TO BE CHANGED DUE TO THE UNAVAILABILITY OF THE ORIGINAL SPEAKER. RETAILS ARE NOW:

30/09/26 TIM LEFFLER - THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

HOWEVER, FOR THOSE WHO ARE DISAPPOINTED NOT TO LEARN ALL ABOUT THE SPANISH FLU EPIDEMIC, WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT THE TALK HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR 2027. IN ADDITION, THE SPEAKER, ANDREW JACKSON IS KEEN TO HAVE ANOTHER "GILBERT DAY" CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ONE OF BILLINGHAY'S MORE FAMOUS RESIDENTS.

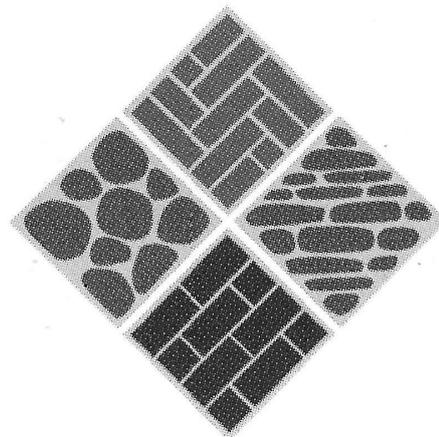
HOPEFULLY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SUPPORT SOME OR ALL OF THESE EVENTS. ALTHOUGH THE GROUP IS CURRENTLY FINANCIALLY VIABLE, THE INCREASING COST OF SPEAKERS MAKES IT ESSENTIAL THAT WE GET AS MANY PEOPLE ATTENDING OUR MEETINGS AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MEETINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY, LOU HIRD, ON 07756268762.

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Expires 30th April 2026

St Michael's Community Hall, Billingham



Please come along to our friendly wellbeing coffee morning.



Every Thursday morning 10am - 12:00

We would love you to join us for drinks and chats.

Be great to see you.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Billingham Village Hall & Playing Field

Thanks to everyone who came along to our tabletop sale on 24th January which raised £275 towards the upkeep of the village hall. Twenty different sellers put on displays including crafts, Greyhound Trust, sweets, bric-à-brac Dutch cakes and cheeses, jumble and more (see a selection in the pics below). Refreshments including teas, coffee and home-made cakes and pastries went down well, and thanks to stall holders who provided raffle prizes.

We will be holding an **Easter tabletop sale on Saturday 4th April**. There will be a children's competition as well as refreshments so please come along and support your village hall.

If you would like to book a table, please contact Sue Robinson on 07848 910208.

Billingham Village Hall and playing field is a self-funded registered charity. The hall is independently operated, not managed by the local authority. We depend on your bookings and participation in events to help maintain both the hall and playing field for everyone in our community, so we encourage you to join us and show your support. These events are vital if we want the hall to continue to be available for us all.

Finally, we would like to produce an updated history of Billingham village hall and playing field including how it came into being, its changes over the years and the people who have been a part of its story including the football and cricket teams etc. If anyone has any photos, news cuttings, anecdotes or anything at all which might be of interest we would be grateful if we could borrow these to include in the story of the hall and playing field, an asset we sometimes take for granted but must keep going for the people of Billingham and district.

If you have anything of interest, please contact Bob Robinson on 07940715669

Thankyou

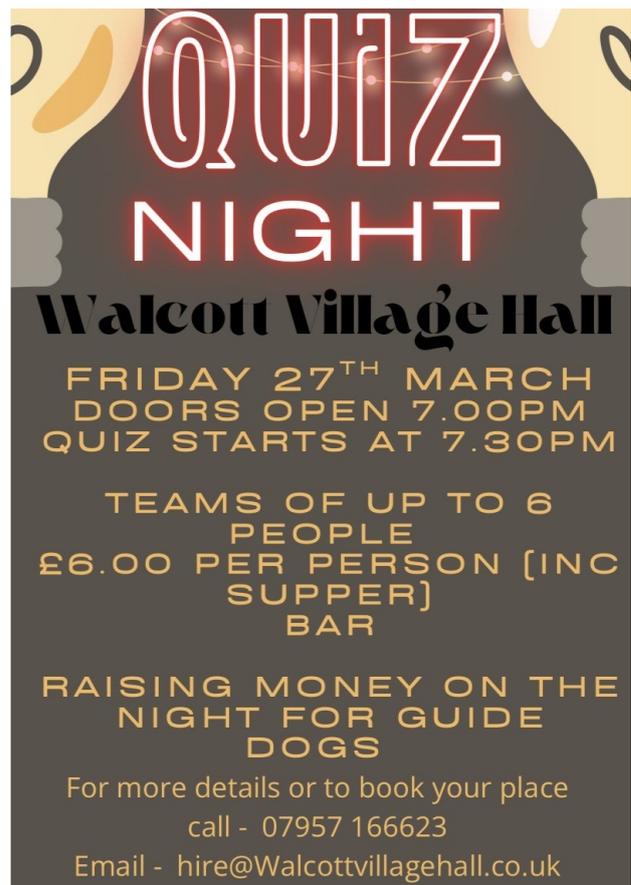




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