

# Silkstone Parish Council Newsletter



Issue 72 Spring 2016

## Editor's Note

Welcome to another bumper packed Newsletter. Thanks to all to those who have contributed to make it such an interesting read this time. I would like to draw your attention to Old Silkstone Band concert on page 2 and the call for volunteers for Silkstone Sing on page 3. There's some great news about successful grant funding, pages 3 & 13. Finally there are a couple of great stories about our local wild life (pages 9 & 11).

*Enjoy! Meryl*

## Notices

### Jays wood

Grand opening of Jays Wood on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 10:30 am see page 10 for details

### Newsletter

Do you want to put something in the next newsletter? See Page 7 for contact details.

### Sponsor a hanging basket?

See page 14

## Contents - a selection

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## Chairman's letter March 2016

Usually I hope to bring good news within my Chair's letter but this time it is tinged with great sadness.

As many of you will be aware there was a terrible accident by Silkstone Garage in which an elderly resident died. The Parish Council send our heartfelt condolences to Mr Mann's family and friends. Rest assured, the Parish Council will be continuing with our longstanding efforts to improve road safety within the parish.

I do have some good news to report, thanks to the hard work of councillors and some of our volunteer groups; the Parish Council has been awarded a £63,000 grant towards drainage works at the recreation ground and a minimum of an £8000 grant towards a trim-trail /picnic area down at the Community Centre. You may have seen the request from the council to vote for this project at Tesco. If we win the vote we could get £12,000.

Up in Silkstone Common, the CARE group have been awarded a grant from the Ward Alliance towards power tool training. This will help them maintain overgrown areas within the parish but more importantly help improve access to Jays Wood which will be officially opened in April.

The parish has recently been targeted by fly-tippers. On the TPT, Blacker Green and Silkstone, and Moorend Lane all kinds of rubbish has been dumped. We all need to help BMBC track down these offenders. If you see any tipping taking place try and get the registration number of the vehicle and report it on 01226-775656.

What is happening with the weather at the moment, snow falling last week and now back to monsoon type rainfall, when will it all end? I can see that the daffodils are out and the birds looking to nest, so spring must be around the corner, it would be nice to see some sunshine after the damp winter we have endured.

*Have a lovely Easter, Richard Leech: Parish Council Chair*

## Old Silkstone Band march back to success!

After a year of re-development and strengthening Old Silkstone Band are pleased to announce they are back to their winning ways. The band were delighted when they were placed second at the Yorkshire Regional Championships back in March last year, which booked them a ticket to Cheltenham to compete in the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, keeping us at the forefront of the national contesting platform.

Since then the band has continued to flourish and has welcomed a brace of new and talented players. It's been a very busy and successful year for the band so far, here are just some of our musical highlights!

Shortly after the famous Whit Friday March contest (where the band even managed to beat Black Dyke at one particular contest) the band hosted a highly

*Continued on Page 2*

*Continued from Page 1*

successful 'Strictly Come Dancing' event at The Fairway Dodworth which saw the band work alongside professional ballroom dancers and talented youngsters from Silkstone's Maria Penrose School of Dance.

In early July, the band then travelled to the Emerald Isle to compete in the South of Ireland Brass Band Championships, where they joined forces with local band Carrick on Suir. A fantastic brass band experience and one which saw the band bring the best soloist award back to Silkstone!

More recently, the band hosted its ever popular Oktoberfest event, again at the Fairway with plenty of Oompah, fun and games, it was a Bavarian night to remember! We were joined by guests The Frumptarn Guggen Band who got everyone up on their feet singing and dancing, a really fun night for all and for the band!

In November, there were more prizes for the band, when we were awarded 2nd place and best soloist at the entertaining Brass Factor Competition which took place at Holmfirth Picturedrome.

One of the biggest achievements of the year was the band's appearance at the National Brass Band Championships where they gained a very credible 6th place through a lot of hard work and dedication. The band would like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to the residents of Silkstone for all your support and kind donations. The band raised well over £6000 to fund their National Finals appearance and we couldn't have done it without your generosity and support. The band are hosting a celebratory 'Thank you' concert which will take place on Saturday the 23 April at 7.30pm at Silkstone Church. We'd love to see you all there!

After a very busy festive period, the new year starts with final preparations

for the Yorkshire Regional Brass Band contest in Bradford which takes place on Saturday the 5 March where we're hoping to bring a trophy back home to Silkstone and secure promotion to the First Section.

We have lots of exciting musical events planned for 2016 including a 'Disney and friends' spectacular on Sunday the 26th of June at 2pm at The Fairway Banqueting Suite, Dodworth. Listen to music from all your favourite Disney and family films and see all your favourite Disney characters at our family friendly afternoon of entertainment, which will include face painting, treats and loads of entertainment for the children.

**Karen Bolt**



**All Saints Church Silkstone  
Saturday 23 April at 7:30pm  
Old Silkstone Band in concert**



Come and listen to our magnificent band playing a wide selection of music in the beautiful surroundings of our village church

**Tickets £5  
including refreshments  
Children under 12 free**

Proceeds to be shared between  
All Saints Church  
and

Barnsley Independent Alzheimers and Dementia Association (BIADS)

**To book tickets please ring 492294**



## Silkstone Parish Council awarded £63,820 of funding to improve grassroots sports facility

Silkstone Recreation Ground is among 149 projects to secure a share of £16.5 million of National Lottery funding from Sport England that will help improve facilities and playing fields across the country.

Silkstone Parish Council has been awarded £63,820 to improve the drainage of the Silkstone Recreation Ground cricket field and carry out essential works to support the drainage outflow into Silkstone beck.

Silkstone Parish Council Chairman Richard Leech said. *“The Silkstone cricket club and Parish Council worked together to complete the application to Sport England. This is a fantastic result for the senior and junior cricket teams who train and play on the ground and should ensure that the cricket outfield is a playable surface throughout the cricket season”*

Cricket Club spokesperson, Tony Clegg, said: *“We are delighted to have secured this investment, and it is a great example of local community organisations working in partnership.*

*When finished, this project will reduce cancelled practice and matches, giving more sporting opportunities to all ages in our community.”*

The announcement comes as Sport England revealed that it has reached a major funding milestone having invested £5 billion in grassroots sport in the last 20 years.

Since 1994, the year Tom Daley was born, Wet Wet Wet topped the charts with Love Is All Around and the Channel Tunnel opened, Sport England has made tens of thousands of investments – totalling £5 billion.

Sport England’s Property Director, Charles Johnston, said: *“£5 billion is a huge sum of money, but it’s the projects and people that that money supports which are really important. We’re delighted to have invested so*

*much into community sport, and see on a daily basis the impact that it makes for local people.”*

*“The latest round of facility funding continues to make a noticeable difference to community sports clubs across the country. By giving people top-class, sustainable facilities in which to play sport, and by improving and protecting our playing surfaces, we’re ensuring that more people can play sport, more often.”*

**Press release from Sport England**

## The Somme

On Friday 1st July 2016 our Country will be reflecting upon events that unfolded exactly 100 years earlier in France at what has become known as 'The Battle of the Somme'.

To mark the event, a group of volunteers have been looking at how we can commemorate the sacrifices both on the battlefield and at home in our Parish during the period. We are planning a series of events starting with a sober commemoration led by Reverend Browell and hopefully representatives of the services, at our War memorial, but also over the course of the weekend displays and events, hopefully involving both our Primary schools.

Jane and Margaret from the Bramah Gallery, with the kind and invaluable support of Andy Horsfield have been collecting archive materials, photographs and memorabilia to present what we hope will be a fascinating glimpse into the stories of the soldiers and their families around the time of the battle.

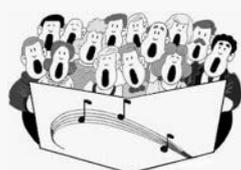
If anyone has any letters, books, photographs or stories that could be copied or borrowed for the event, or suggestions, can you please either contact myself (contact details on page 9) or Jane Raistrick at oldtimer11@btinternet.com (01484) 868254.

**Richard Bell**

## Silkstone Sing 2016

**The 91st Silkstone Sing will take place on Sunday 17th July at 6.30pm (prov.) on the Silkstone Vicarage Lawns.**

**Old Silkstone Band will be providing the music.**



The beneficiary of the event this year will again be

**“The Barnsley Hospice”**

Last year we presented a cheque of £1000 to Barnsley Hospice.

The majority of the proceeds from the event come from the sale of programmes for the event. We aim to visit every house (and public house) in Silkstone and Silkstone Common at the beginning of July. The more volunteers there are to help with this the easier the task. We have a small band of dedicated volunteers, but most of us are getting on a bit in years. So it would be nice to see some new volunteers from the younger end (and middle aged) of the parish population.

If you feel that you would like to be part of keeping this tradition going and are able to volunteer to help selling programmes on at least one evening, please contact:

**Claud Bills – tel: 01226 790599 or email: claudbills@btinternet.com**

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Teresa Owens IIR (Dip) MAR. Reflexologist based in Silkstone Common, also offering a mobile service.

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[teresa@reflexology4you.co.uk](mailto:teresa@reflexology4you.co.uk)



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- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
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| Pregnancy             | Fertility issues      |
| Trauma Rehabilitation | Circulatory problems  |



**Colin Bower**

In November last year the parish lost one of its well known characters, Colin Bower.

Colin lived in Silkstone Common and served on Silkstone Parish Council from 1991-2011 and was Vice Chairman for many years. He could regularly be seen around both the villages and surrounding countryside pursuing one of his great loves bird watching, whilst checking out the miles of footpaths throughout the parish

Colin was a key player in the community life of Silkstone and Silkstone Common. He believed that a thriving community is important to the well being of residents. He was head teacher of Silkstone Common school from 1972 to 1981, Chairman of the Scouts and Guides Parents Association 1977-1979, Chairman of Silkstone youth club management committee from 1979-1983, Chairman of CARE for 30 years, Silkstone Parish newsletter editor 1995-2009, Chairman of the Silkstone- St Florent des Bois twinning association 1998-2009.

His hard work and commitment to the residents of the Parish brought about many successful projects including the construction of the Silkstone sports pavilion and recreation ground, the completion of a Village Design Statement for Silkstone and Silkstone Common, the improvement work to 19km of footpaths in the Parish, the amazing stained glass window in Silkstone Church which remembers the Huskar Pit disaster, an archaeological survey of the Silkstone wagon way and an abundance of local history information through his recent work with Silkstone heritage and Roggins Local History Group.

His outstanding service to the Silkstone Parish Community led to the Parish Council nominating him for a British honour in January 2015; sadly he passed away before the nomination was processed by the government's cabinet office.

He was a leading light for the community and his drive and enthusiasm to improve the local environment for the benefit of all was immense. He is sorely missed.

*Meryl Liddell*

**Free exhibition at the Civic**

**I AM HERE: Portable art, wearable objects, jewellery since the 1970s**

Portable art, wearable objects, jewellery, since the 1970s features almost 100 pieces of jewellery by European makers from over five decades, starting with pieces from the most radical era of modern jewellery making, the New Jewellery Movement in the 1970's.

This movement saw jewellers working with non-precious materials and experimental design in order to address contemporary social, fiscal and political issues. This had a profound impact on future jewellery making in the UK and beyond.

Makers featured include Susanna Heron, a major presence in the New Jewellery Movement who championed the importance of design over materials and David Watkins, who experimented with new material technology approaches to jewellery.

**The Gallery is open Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm (last admission 4.45pm)**

**There's also a huge variety of shows: comedy, music, theatre and family events in the Civic Theatre. The Scratch night is just one example. Visit [www.barnsleycivic.co.uk](http://www.barnsleycivic.co.uk) to find out more**

**Woollen Wood**

If you go down to the woods today, you're sure of a big surprise; although it won't actually be today, but I'm sure a big surprise awaits in July and August for children of all ages.

Orchard Wood, Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common, is to come alive with flowers, birds, woodland creatures, fairies etc. all meticulously hand knitted by the talented ladies of the Sharing Skills group which meets every Tuesday 2-4pm in the Methodist Church on Ben Bank Road.

The idea originated, when one of our ladies visited a National Trust House in Rufford, and the woodland area in the grounds had been decorated with knitted objects. The idea soon sparked an enthusiastic plan of action for our group to do the same and we already have a steadily increasing collection of birds and flowers to make the wood an exciting environment for all ages to enjoy in the summer.

The "woollen wood" will stay in place for the August school holidays, until it is dismantled in September when a celebration event will take place in the Methodist Church to coincide with the Harvest Festival. This event is to include an exhibition of crafts by the Sharing Skills group, art exhibition, stalls and refreshments etc. details of which will be in the next newsletter.

*Sue Fallis*

**A scratch night?!?**

This is an informal chance for 4 regional artists and companies to showcase new work and try it out in front of a live audience.

*Pay what you can afford* at the end of the night and all donations will be shared between the artists and the Civic to support the development of their work.

Post event Q&A

*Linda Marsh*



**Jays Wood is ready ....**

...for its official opening in April 2016 (see separate notice). Silkstone CARE Group is pleased to announce that the forestry work, fence repair and creation of a new dry stone pillar entrance with a path of sandstone chippings leading to a seat in a natural clearing was completed on the 16th. January 2016 almost 3 months ahead of schedule. The wood off Hallroyd Lane, Silkstone Common is now open to the public for previews at any time.

It is difficult to know where to start in thanking people for their support with this unusual and ambitious project of creating a new public amenity by opening up a wood that has been closed off for over 40 years. The Parish Council was instrumental in the negotiations with Barnsley M.B.C. to gain access. Richard (the Chair) has encouraged joint projects with volunteer groups (e.g. the Huskar Rooms) and in this case Karen Canadine (Parish Clerk) worked with vigour and persistence to seal the deal. Harrogate Flower Show gave a very generous grant to cover the works above (meaning that the cost of the works to the Parish was less than £100). Financial support also came from Barnsley Timber Merchants, Myers Building Supplies (Penistone), Glasdon seats and Signs-EXTRA (Barugh Green). There are also many other local people who have freely donated their time, materials and expertise. CARE Group members have spent over 100 hours working in the wood so far and will continue to maintain it in

future. The stone for the pillars was given by a local person and the dry stone waller (a CARE member) who built the pillars would not accept payment. Nest boxes are on their way at no cost and the immediate neighbours of the wood have been so understanding in their cooperation, ideas, information, advice and support during the preparatory work. There has been a great deal of interest in the wood and passers-by have been very encouraging (some from surrounding villages). The Barnsley Chronicle has run two front page photo articles and Penistone FM has broadcast a live interview from the seat in the wood. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way.

Jays Wood is a small silver birch wood planted (we are told) by the miners of the old Hallroyd pit on this site. There are a lot of oak saplings thanks to roosting jays that bring in acorns for food. The wood is now protected for this and future generations thanks to a 125 year lease held by the Parish Council. The aim is to create a unique partnership between the wood and members of the public to the benefit of both. The path and seat encourages people to walk into the wood to sit, relax and enjoy its tranquillity. The lease also means that the wood has the chance to continue its natural succession to develop into a mature oak woodland and support the wildlife habitats it provides.

Locals say that hedgehogs, adders, a variety of nesting birds, orange tip and small tortoiseshell butterflies, fungi, honeysuckle, celandines, wood anemones and more have been seen in the wood. Because it is such a small wood, it will need the support of all its visitors to leave the rear and top sides of the wood with minimum disturbance to allow this to continue.

This is a natural environment so take care when you visit. The adder is our only poisonous snake and has a dark zig-zag stripe on its back. A bite needs urgent medical attention. Children should be supervised and dogs kept on a lead both to keep them safe and protect the wildlife habitats. Poop scooping is essential please. Speaking to visitors I have met on site so far I feel confident that together we can make this partnership with the wood a success.

The position of the wood and the short distance from the crossroads at the centre of the village makes it best to visit on foot. It is on the route of the Silkstone Heritage Trail (leaflets are available from the Station Inn) so it provides an ideal resting place before climbing up Champany Hill. Hallroyd Lane is very narrow and the grass verges are very soft indeed so PLEASE DO NOT PARK alongside the wood and please respect the privacy of the local residents.

**Graham Wells**  
*Chair of Silkstone CARE Group*



### Parish Council website

<http://www.silkstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk>

If you are a local society or business you can ask to be listed and described on the website with a link to your own website if you have one.

You can find all publicly available documents on the website. If you do not have internet access and would like to view anything from our paper files please contact the Parish Clerk.

### Facebook and Twitter

Silkstone PC has two Facebook pages. One labelled "Community" is mainly used for announcements about PC Business or official events the PC has been notified about. The other labelled "Friends" can be used by anyone in the Parish to post notices about upcoming events. If any local organisations have a Facebook page that they would like to be linked please contact Meryl Liddell.

The Twitter account is @SilkstonePC it is used to tweet current events that may be of interest to residents eg meetings, road closures, warnings by the police/BMBC etc.

### South Yorkshire Community Foundation (SYCF)

SYCF is a grant giving body that raises funds from a variety of sources with the aim of improving the lives of people in South Yorkshire. There is a wide variety of projects supported by the fund including skate parks, brass bands and community trips. It may be that your group could access some of the funds for a project or activity you want to undertake. You can contact SYCF on 0114 242 4857 or by email at [grants@sycf.org.uk](mailto:grants@sycf.org.uk). Good Luck!

*Derek Liddell*

### Parish Council Meeting dates for 2016

Meetings are always on Mondays and always held at Silkstone Sports Pavilion

| Date        | Meeting                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 April     | Parish Council                |
| 11 April    | <b>Annual Parishioners</b>    |
| 9 May       | <b>Annual Council Meeting</b> |
| 6 June      | Parish Council                |
| 4 July      | Parish Council                |
| 5 September | Parish Council                |
| 3 October   | Parish Council                |
| 7 November  | Parish Council                |
| 5 December  | Parish Council                |

**Please Note** The Statutory Annual Parishioners Meeting was held in Silkstone Common in 2015 and so will be held in Silkstone at the Sports Pavillon in 2016

### Contacts

#### Parish Clerk

**Mrs Karen Canadine**  
40 St Andrews Drive, Darton, S75 5LX  
Tel : 391343 or e-mail [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com)

### Allotments Needed

Silkstone Parish Council has one allotment site in Silkstone which now has 15 plots after a number of the plots were split last year. All the allotments are allocated to residents of the Parish and we have **13** people on the waiting list for a plot.

Can you offer land for allotments on a long term lease or transfer to the Parish Council? Contact the Parish Clerk on 01226 391343 or e-mail [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com)

### Councillor Contact details

#### Chairman of the Council

Richard Leech  
17 Towngate, Silkstone  
Tel: 791679 or [rich@richardleech.co.uk](mailto:rich@richardleech.co.uk)

#### Councillors

##### Bill Barkworth

9 The Meadows, Silkstone Common  
Tel : 790112 or e-mail [billbarkworth@aol.com](mailto:billbarkworth@aol.com)

##### Richard Bell

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##### Ron Stier

5 Beech Avenue, Silkstone Common  
Tel : 790074 or e-mail c/o [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com)

### Newsletter contacts

The Editor of this newsletter is Meryl Liddell. Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors not necessarily the views and policies of the Parish Council.

**If you have a news item** for the next issue please email Meryl on [meryl.liddell@btinternet.com](mailto:meryl.liddell@btinternet.com)

**If you want to update details for your organisation, advertise or amend an existing advert** please email the Parish clerk, Karen Canadine on [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com)

Articles, events and adverts: cut-off date for the next issue is 8 pm Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016

## Vacancy for Treasurer Role

The new Huskar Community Rooms has a vacancy for a treasurer.

The role will require:

- Book keeping duties
- Reconcile income and outgoings
- Control bank statements and payments
- Liaise with the committee and update the financial position of the charity.

The position is voluntary and a full handover and training will be given to the new treasurer.

# Huskar

## COMMUNITY ROOMS

We welcome all new interested individuals who would like to join this exciting new group (in addition to this role) and be involved in the committee in the future development of the Huskar Community Rooms

**Please contact:**

Linda Jackson  
07956 110161



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Welcome to what I hope will be the first in a regular series of articles about Silkstone and Silkstone Common's natural environment. As a keen birdwatcher I am always amazed at the diversity of the wildlife (both flora and fauna) within our Parish. However this article is not about birds, we'll leave them for another time, this first article is about the much maligned bat.



#### First some bat facts:

- There are over 1100 bat species in the world. Bats can be as large as a small dog or as small as a bee. The UK has 18 species of bat with the largest bat being the Noctule weighing in at up to 40 grams and the smallest, and most common, the Common Pipistrelle weighing in at up to 7 grams – less than a £1 coin.
- Of our 18 species, 17 are resident all year round and one species, the Greater Mouse-eared, was declared extinct in the UK in 1990, but a solitary individual has been hibernating in southern England since 2002.
- The majority of the world's bats eat insects although some eat frogs, fruit, other bats, blood and fish – all the UK bats are insect eaters and the tiny Common Pipistrelle (see picture below) has been recorded as eating up to 3,000 insects in a night!
- Bats account for over 25% of mammal species in the UK and are more closely related to humans than they are to mice. They usually only have one baby, or pup, a year and can live for up to 30 years.

Bats are one of the unsung, and largely unseen, heroes of our environment. They are pest controllers, eating thousands of insects every night. UK bats won't bite you or suck your blood but they will help clear the air of blood sucking mosquitoes! They also help keep bugs away from crops, however some agricultural practices can have a detrimental impact on bats. Increased use of pesticides may mean that bats go hungry from lack of insect prey and the destruction of hedgerows and woods means the loss of areas to roost, hunt, hibernate and exercise.

They occupy a wide range of habitats, such as wetlands, woodlands, farmland as well as urban areas. Bats are a good indicator of our biodiversity. The pressures they face such as landscape change, intensive farming, and habitat fragmentation and development make them excellent indicators for the wider health of our wildlife.

#### Bats at home

The place a bat lives is called a roost – not a nest – and they need different roosting conditions at different times of year and often move around to find a roost that meets their needs. In summer female bats form maternity roosts or nurseries, while in winter bats use hibernation roosts. They spend most of the winter hibernating and by April have mainly come out of hibernation and are hungry and active and move between several roost sites. Mothers give birth usually in June to a single pup. During this period males roost on their own or in small groups. At six weeks old bats begin to catch insects for themselves and maternity colonies begin to disperse and they may move to mating roosts. The bat mating season starts in September and can run through October.

#### Threats to bats

Unfortunately bats are extremely vulnerable to the activities of humans and in the UK bat populations have declined considerably over the last century. Bats are still under threat from building and development work that affects roosts, loss of habitat and the severing of flying routes by roads. Other potential threats can include wind turbines and lighting if they are sited on key bat habitat or near roosts.

All bats and their roosts are protected by law. If you think you have bats roosting in your property, you must seek advice from your Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation (SNCO) before doing any works.

#### Bats and disease

The only known disease associated with bats in Britain is rabies, specifically; European Bat Lyssavirus type 2 (EBLV2). This disease has only ever been associated with one human case (a bat worker) in the UK and has been found in just 11 bats (all of one species, Daubenton's bats, which tend not to roost in buildings) despite over 12,500 bats having been tested; the risk to the public is therefore very small. EBLV2 is transmitted via a bite or scratch therefore there is no risk to the public if they do not handle bats. So if you come across an injured or dead bat always use thick protective gloves just to be safe and there is no need to be concerned if you have bats flying in your garden. If, in the rare event, a bat bites you seek advice from your GP.



Continued on page 10

Continued from page 9

### Bats in Silkstone and Silkstone Common

According to the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) and their South Yorkshire Bat Group we have or will probably have the following species of bats present in our Parish:

Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle, Natterer's, Noctule, Leisler, Brown Long-eared, Daubenton's and Whiskered/Brandts.

The records the BCT have show that Silkstone Parish Church was surveyed from 1987 to 2010 where Common Pipistrelle and Brown Long-eared were observed. They also have records of Daubenton's at Blacker dam circa 1980s/1990s.

In 2014 ecological consultants assessing a planning application recorded

Common Pipistrelle and Natterer's bats in Silkstone.

### What can we do to help bats?

Our local environmental support group, CARE, has placed bat boxes in some of the woods the Parish Council manages and will shortly be putting some more up including in the new Jays Wood in Silkstone Common. If you wish to help with this project please contact Graham Wells at CARE on 790732.

If you are contemplating building works development or extensions and know you have bats around you may want to consider putting up a bat box to help mitigate any disturbance to the bats. You can purchase bat boxes from the RSPB: [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk), the Nestbox Company at [www.nestbox.co.uk](http://www.nestbox.co.uk) or [www.nhbs.com](http://www.nhbs.com)



The Bat Conservation Trust run regular bat watching events or you can subscribe to their e-bulletin about bats by going to [www.bats.org.uk](http://www.bats.org.uk)

To help with bat conservation you can report any sightings (whether you can identify the species or not) via the Bat Conservation Trust by going to the website: [www.bigbatmap.org](http://www.bigbatmap.org)

*Bill Barkworth*

### Where have all the flowers gone?

I was pleased to get a phone call from an old friend of mine the other day. Unfortunately the pleasure didn't last. Glad as I was to speak to her, the news she brought me was quite disappointing. Whilst she had been out walking her dog she noticed that some miniature daffodils she had admired the day before in the flower beds at Christine's Place, Silkstone Common had disappeared and in their place were three empty little hollows. A little further on the walk, she passed some snowdrops, which again had been beautiful display the day before. Sadly someone had thought it would be great fun to knock all the heads off these pretty flowers that give us the first signs that winter is almost over and spring is on the way.

### Who puts the flowers there?

If you walk through both Silkstone and Silkstone Common you will notice the lovely flower beds and boxes, that from spring until early autumn are a riot of colours. They are maintained by a

number of volunteers known as Silkstone in Bloom. The men and women of this group give up their time and energy to make sure the villages look attractive for the rest of us.

So please if you see anyone vandalising the flower beds let the parish council know as soon as possible.

### Join Silkstone in Bloom?

Or if you have some free time and would like to join in and help with the up-keep of the beds, please contact Janet on 790994 (Silkstone Common) or Trudy on 792218 (Silkstone). Donations are also gratefully accepted.

From April onwards the group will be meeting on the first Saturday morning each month from 10am. Details will be emailed out to anyone who is interested. If that is you please email the CARE secretary, Bill Barkworth on [billbarkworth@aol.com](mailto:billbarkworth@aol.com) and ask to join the Silkstone In Bloom mailing list.

*Meryl Liddell*

### Grand Opening of Jays Wood

The Parish Council would like to announce that on Tuesday 19 April 2016 at 10:30 am Jay's Wood will be officially opened to the public. If you would like to attend, please feel free to be there for the official ribbon cutting.

The Parish Council and CARE would like to thank Harrogate Flower Show for sponsoring the work so far, Barnsley Timber Merchants, Myers Building Suppliers, Glasdon Seats and the Woodland Trust. We would also like to thank both Penistone FM and The Barnsley Chronicle for getting the news about the wood out and about, all the local people who have given time and goods to help and last but not least the local residents around the wood who have been so very helpful whilst the work has been going on.

There is very limited parking and the verges are very soft, so please do not come by car unless necessary. If you do come by car please do not park on the verges.

*Parish Council*

## Hogwatch Day Hedgehogs are disappearing and they need our help.

There was a good attendance at the recent Hogwatch Day on Saturday February 18th in Penistone. The meeting was organised by Pete Riley of Friends of the Earth to report on the results of the 2015 Hogwatch in our area and to discuss ways in which we can help what is on the road to becoming an endangered species.

Hogwatch is a project being run jointly by Barnsley Biodiversity Trust and Penistone Friends of the Earth. Their aim is to get better information about the numbers and distribution of hedgehogs in the Penistone Area so we can take action to help them.

There has been a huge decline in the hedgehog population in the UK, with numbers dropping from 30 million in the 1950's to well under a million now.

There were some fascinating results about where hedgehogs have been spotted in the Penistone area with Silkstone Parish being one of the hotspots, although sightings were still thin on the ground.

There were some fascinating displays and a thought provoking and worrying discussion about the future of hedgehogs and the pressure on their habitat and the reasons for their decline.

The brilliant and dedicated Anita and Allan Broadhead of Cawthorne Hedgehog Care and Rescue Centre showed a video of their hedgehogs and the work they do to save and rehabilitate injured hedgehogs. Pete

Riley reviewed the research and work volunteers had undertaken and the conservation work taking place. Even our MP, Angela Smith, was there and gave a thoughtful and informative talk about hedgehogs and the cross-party political approach to hedgehog and wildlife conservation and was clearly very supportive of the project.

Nobody knows exactly why hedgehogs are declining, but the main reasons are likely to include loss of habitat, pesticides and slug pellets, the paving over of gardens and barriers between them.

### So what can we do to help Hedgehogs?

Make your garden hedgehog friendly:

- Make sure they can get in and out - make gaps the size of a CD in or under your fence.
- They love hedges, compost heaps, log piles and untidy corners
- Invest in a hedgehog box.
- Steer clear of slug pellets, chemicals and pesticides. (Encouraging hedgehogs will help with your slug problem – they think slugs are tasty!)
- Provide water (not milk – they are lactose intolerant) and dog food.
- If you have a pond make sure there is an escape route in case they fall in.
- Check compost heaps and rough areas with your foot before sticking in a fork, strimming or mowing. In the late Spring and Summer,



hedgehogs like to sleep in long grass.

- Check bonfires before setting alight – preferably move them, if they have been sitting for a while. They are inviting places for sleepy hedgehogs about to go into hibernation.
- If you have them provide some water

### Injured Hedgehogs:

If you've spotted a hedgehog – and you're worried about them – or a hedgehog is out in the daytime, something is wrong. He/she could be sick, injured or orphaned. At any time of day, a hedgehog that is not moving, is wobbly, dragging a limb or bleeding needs immediate help.

Take them to a vet or contact Cawthorne Hedgehog Care and Rescue Centre on 01226 791972 or the RSPCA on 0300 1234 999.

To volunteer as a Hedgehog watcher visit the website [www.ourhogwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourhogwatch.org.uk)

Please follow the link below for this years Hogwatch results

<http://www.ourhogwatch.org.uk/2015-results/>

**Bill Barkworth**

### Sepsis

Sepsis, also referred to as blood poisoning or septicaemia, is a potentially life-threatening condition, triggered by an infection or injury. In sepsis, the body's immune system goes into overdrive as it tries to fight an infection. This can reduce the blood supply to vital organs such as the brain, heart and kidneys.

**Without quick treatment, sepsis can lead to multiple organ failure and death.**

Early symptoms of sepsis may include:

- a high temperature (fever) or low body temperature
- chills and shivering
- a fast heartbeat
- fast breathing

See your GP immediately or call NHS 111 if you've recently had an infection or injury and you have possible early signs of sepsis.

**Severe sepsis and septic shock are medical emergencies. If you think that you or someone in your care has one of these conditions, call 999 and ask for an ambulance.**

Visit NHS Choices for more information

**Linda Marsh**

Maria Penrose  
DANCE Studios

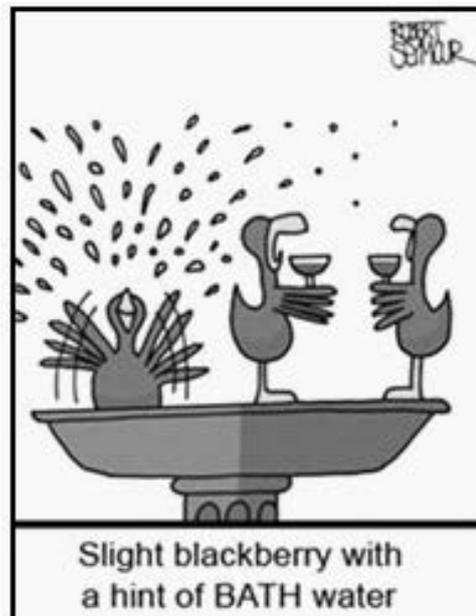


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MPDS

Principle: Maria Penrose – Est: 1994 in Silkstone  
Tel: 07966 445679 Email: maria@mariapenrose.co.uk





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call Glenn or Lynne  
07837994337

You can  
find Glenn at  
**The Red  
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All our care and education is carried out by highly qualified and motivated staff, within the EYFS framework. Offering Full Day Care, Sessional Care, Wrap around Care, including pickup/drop off service to Silkstone Primary School and Silkstone Common J & I School and Holiday Club, for children up to 11 years.

Open 50 weeks a year, 7:30 am – 6.00 pm For more information about available sessions, contact us on 01226 792294.  
Old Town School, High Street, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4LR.  
[www.silkstonepreschool.btck.co.uk](http://www.silkstonepreschool.btck.co.uk)



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## From the desk of the Parish Clerk

### New Trim Trail for Silkstone Recreation Ground

You will probably see elsewhere in this newsletter that the Parish Council (thanks to Cllr Steve Fletcher) were successful in an application for funding from Tesco's Bags of Help for a trim trail next to the new Huskar Community Rooms. By the time you receive the newsletter the voting will have closed and we will be waiting to hear whether our project will receive £8,000, £10,000 or £12,000. An £8,000 grant will pay for the trim trail but the higher level grant will enable us to include a new footpath and picnic benches in the area too. I hope you had sight of one of the flyers and were able to vote for the scheme in store at Tesco – Steve Fletcher and I went mad leafleting all local businesses and putting up posters for a few days in February so fingers crossed we get enough votes to achieve the higher level grant. Thanks to ex-Cllr Pat Smith who drafted a plan of the proposed scheme which includes an extension to the multi use games area and nature trail signage in Conroyd wood in addition to the Trim trail – all of course subject to future successful grant applications !

### Silkstone Recreation Ground – Drainage works

A mammoth grant of £63,820 has been approved for Silkstone Parish Council from Sport England to pay for much needed drainage works on the cricket outfield and parts of the football field at Silkstone Recreation Ground. Thanks to Tony Clegg from the cricket club who completed the bulk of the paperwork for this grant application. The work should start late summer 2016 – this is great news for the cricket and football teams who so often have had to postpone or cancel games due to waterlogged pitches.

### Neighbourhood Planning feasibility

In December 15, the Parish Council agreed to form a new working party to discuss the feasibility of progressing a Neighbourhood Plan for the villages of Silkstone and Silkstone Common. Councillor Debra Smith is chairing the group with members Andrew Browell and Meryl Liddell. The group will collate all current advice in liaison with the Barnsley MBC neighbourhood planning officer and will clarify sources of funding before suggesting a way forward to the Parish Council. This is the very early stages of what could take up to 2 years to come to fruition

and can be a mammoth task. If the Parish Council agrees to progress this it would mean a replacement document for the current Village Design Statement that will be part of the Barnsley MBC local development plan. Part of the process is public consultation, further updates as this progresses will be included in the newsletter and on the Parish Council website.

### Cllr Derek Liddell

Our very own local government champion is now Vice - Chairman of the National Association of Local Councils. He was previously the executive board chairman of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association. He is a huge asset to the Parish Council and ensures that council procedures are run in accordance with national practice.

The next few months bring the end of the financial year when I will have my Finance officer hat on for a good deal of the time when preparing the end of year return for the auditor. The Parish Council's annual report will be included in the next edition of the newsletter.

*Karen Canadine – Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to Silkstone Parish Council*

## Silkstone Common Good Companions: Programme of events April to July 2016

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Apr 6th        | Forever Living health and beauty products demonstration by Karen Johnson, followed by a Committee meeting. |
| Apr 20th       | John Wallis tells us about Variety entertainment in War-time Britain.                                      |
| May 4th or 5th | Paramount Penistone – show to be announced.  |
| May 18th       | Bring & Buy sale – please come and support our club.   |
| Jun 1st        | Bats & Birds of Silkstone – quiz and talk by Bill Barkworth, followed by a Committee meeting.              |
| Jun 15th       | Strawberry Fayre – strawberries, cream and other goodies to buy and eat!                                   |
| Jun 29th       | Annual outing – to be confirmed.   |
| Jul 13th       | To be announced.   |
| Jul 27th       | Ham Salad Tea.   |

Anyone wanting further details please contact:

Terry Daniel: Tel: 01226 386755 or email: [terreanna2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:terreanna2@yahoo.co.uk) Or Margaret Brayshaw : Tel: 01226 790196

*Terry Daniel*

**TPT Silkstone**

We have resumed work improving the TPT between Silkstone Common and Rob Royd Kennels. As well as continuing the process of removing mud and improving drainage we have also been lopping down and trimming some trees to improve views from the trail, let more light onto it to help improve the surface and provide chest height tree stumps for Willow Tits.

**If there are particular patches that you think would benefit from either mud or tree removal do please let us know. Even better come and help us do it!**

**Coming along to help?**

Dates are advertised on our group’s website <http://groupspaces.com/TPTSilkstone> and also on the Parish Council Facebook page. If you want to get emails from us giving details of planned events, just join us through our website.

We’ve had fantastic support from Voluntary Action Barnsley and the BMBC Rangers. If you don’t fancy helping us but would like to volunteer for something else why not contact VAB check out their website on [www.vabarnsley.org.uk](http://www.vabarnsley.org.uk) , Twitter account: @VABarnsley or Facebook page: VABarnsley

*Linda Marsh*

**Hanging Baskets in Silkstone and Silkstone Common**

How would you like the chance to dedicate one of the beautiful baskets, that hang through the Parish during the summer to a loved one? You will have noticed these beautiful baskets that appear late spring and continue to flower throughout the summer and into early autumn in Silkstone and Silkstone Common.

This year the Parish Council would like to offer businesses or individuals the opportunity to sponsor or dedicate one or more of the baskets. As usual they will be at the centre of Silkstone Common and down the High Street in Silkstone. Each of these special sponsored baskets will have a small plaque with the sponsor’s or the person name it’s dedicated to on it.

The cost of sponsoring a basket will be £80, if you would like to take advantage of this offer please complete the attached slip and return to the Parish Clerk (Silkstone Parish Council 40 St Andrews Drive, Darton, Barnsley S75 5LX) with payment or email [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com) for bank transfer details

Thank you for supporting your Parish Council.

**Hanging Baskets Summer 2016**

Name of sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name, telephone number and e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Wording for plaque: \_\_\_\_\_

Plaques will have space for wording such as ‘Sponsored by A. Company’ or ‘Dedicated to .....’

Preferred location (please circle): Silkstone / Silkstone Common

Please enclose payment of £80 with this slip (cheques to be made payable to Silkstone Parish Council alternatively for direct bank transfers please contact the Clerk for bank details)

*Karen Canadine*

**Events at All Saints Church  
April to July 2016**

- 23 April Band Concert
- 24 April Annual Parish Meeting
- 7 May Duck Race & Stalls
- 25 June Garden Party
- 15 July Concert with Old Silkstone Band
- 17 July Silkstone Sing

**All Saints Church, Silkstone**

**Joint Messy Easter**

**Good Friday (25th March)**

**From 10.00am – 12.00noon**

*Making, baking and decorating special things for Easter.*

*Something for everyone of all ages.*

*Everyone is welcome*

**Please let Reverend Maureen know if you will be coming! Tel: 492294**

**Family Service for  
Easter Sunday**

**Sunday, 27th March**

**11.00 am All Saints Silkstone**

**Please join us for a simple but powerful service to celebrate the resurrection of the risen Christ!**



**Thanks are due**

We should say “Thank you and well done” to Graham Wells.

Without his tenacity over some years dealing with BMBC we wouldn’t have the “Jays Wood” within the control of the Parish Council Now that the Parish Council has a lease it has been opened up for the public to enjoy and is now protected from development for the next 125 years.

You’ll find Jays Wood up Hallroyd Lane, Silkstone Common.

*Pat Smith*

**Local Organisations**

**Music**

**Silkstone Common Ladies Choir**

Singing for pleasure. Meets Mondays, Silkstone Common Methodist Church 7:30pm  
Contact: Sandra Blackburn 791141

**Old Silkstone Band**

Meets twice a week, Monday and Thursdays  
Contact: David O'Connor on 0776 644 2081 or 01226 790669  
Stuart O' Connor on 01226 791388 or 07921261804

**Silkstone Bell Ringers**

Meet every Monday Silkstone Church 7:30pm-9:00pm  
Contact: Carolyn Charlesworth 01226 791592

**Shake Rattle and Roll Children's Music Group**

Babies to 4 year old children welcome.  
Please come along and bring along mum, dad or carer to join in the fun. We meet every Friday from 10 am until 11 am including some school holidays at Silkstone Common Methodist Church. Tea, Coffee, Juice and Biscuits included.  
Contact: Tracy 01226 497811

**Millhouse Green Male Voice Choir.**

Practice night is Mondays in Millhouse Green Institute at 7.30.  
Secretary: Derek Richards Te: 01226 287226  
Web site [www.mgmvc.co.uk](http://www.mgmvc.co.uk)

**White Rose Organ Society**

Professional Electronic Organs Concerts and Social Events. Meet fortnightly on Tuesdays at Dodworth working mens' club. 7.30pm. All visitors welcome.  
Contact: David Andrews ,Tel: 01709 368976  
Website [www.wros.talktalk.net](http://www.wros.talktalk.net)

**Schools**

**Silkstone Common Junior & Infant School**

Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common. Educates children 4-11 yrs. The school is interested in developing the use of the school outside normal school hours.  
Contact: Mr Simon Tabbner 790471  
Visit <http://www.silkstonecommonji.co.uk/>

**Silkstone Primary School**

Educates children 4-11 yrs. The school is interested in developing the use of the school outside normal school hours.  
Contact: Mrs P. Skillbeck 790333  
Visit <http://silkstoneprimarieschool.com/>

**Little giants out of school & holiday club**

Silkstone Primary School for children aged between 4 and 11 years. Monday to Friday  
Phone 0785 4710299

**Sports/Activities**

**Silkstone United Football Club**

Contact: Andy Horsfield 791929

**Silkstone United Junior Football Club**

Under 12's Manager Steve Fletcher 07990 805694  
Please phone the manager for details.

**Silkstone Junior Football Coaching**

Silkstone Junior Football Coaching meet at the SHOOT 5 indoor football pitches in Silkstone Common every Sunday between 10:00am and 11:00am. The session is for 5-7 year olds (Years 1 and 2) and costs £2.50.  
Roy Savage (07903147083) and Mike Horsfield (07584072585)

**Silkstone United Cricket Club**

Silkstone United Cricket Club: Main Sponsors 'Hot Jacks'  
Coaching: Monday 6 - 8 pm for 7-11, U11, U13  
Tuesday's 6 - 8 pm for U15, U17, Adults

**Silkstone Recreation Ground also hosts :**

**Hoyland Town under 15's football team**

contact Tony Hughes on 07974-242648

**Oxspring under 16's football team**

contact Ryan Woods on 07973-913057

**Cricket**

**The Junior Cricket Club: sponsored by The Co-operative Funeralcare.**

Contacts:  
The Chillli Lodge U11's Kevin Taylor: 07771 940 733,  
The Potting Shed Bistro U13's Owen Dyson: 07950 267 678  
U15's Stephen Chambers 07932 954 519 (Club Secretary)  
Barnsley Timber Merchant U17's Darron Walker: 07887 518 980  
Website: [www.silkstoneutd.play-cricket.com](http://www.silkstoneutd.play-cricket.com)

**Silkstone Lodge Bowling Club: now bowling at Shaw Lane**

Secretary: David Harris on Barnsley 790051

**Barnsley BSAC Divers**

Meets every Tuesday 7:30 onwards in the Boardroom at the Metrodome. Anyone interested in diving is welcome whether already qualified or wanting to learn. Try Dives can also be booked. Gift packs available.  
Contact: Ann on 07783 291955 or visit the website [www.barnsleybsacd Divers.co.uk](http://www.barnsleybsacd Divers.co.uk)

**Pilates at Silkstone Common Methodist Chapel**

Telephone Sandra Goddard on 07962716218 for details  
Tuesdays 11 -12 and 12-1  
Thursdays 12.30 – 1.30  
Fridays 1.15 – 2-15

**Silkstone Cycling**

Meets monthly for a social bike ride - going at the speed of the slowest.  
Contact [mickjennings2727@gmail.com](mailto:mickjennings2727@gmail.com) or visit <http://www.goskyride.com/>

Children

**Silkstone Pre-School Playgroup Ltd**

Ofsted registered offering Full Day Care, Sessional Care, Wrap around Care, including pickup/drop off service to Silkstone Primary School and Silkstone Common J & I School and Holiday Club, for children up to 11 years. Open from 7.30am to 6 pm, Mon-Fri, 50 weeks of the year.

Contact: Kathryn Goulding, Manager on 01226 792294 or email kg@silkstonepreschool.co.uk

Visit us at [www.silkstonepreschool.btck.co.uk](http://www.silkstonepreschool.btck.co.uk)

**Edward Bear Baby & Toddler Group**

The playgroup meets at the Methodist Church, Silkstone Common on Monday & Wednesday Mornings 10am to 11.30am

£2 per parent/carer includes refreshments children free. Under 4's and their parents/carers welcome

Contact: Emma 790551

**29th Barnsley (Silkstone) Scout Group: Huskar Community Rooms**

Beaver Scouts: Boys and Girls, 6-8 yrs, 18:00-19:15 Wednesdays

Cub Scouts: Boys and Girls, 8-10.5 yrs, 18:30-20:00 Tuesdays

Scouts: Boys and Girls, 10.5-14 yrs 19:30 to 21:00 Mondays

Explorer Scouts: Boys and Girls, 14-18 yrs 20:00 to 22:00 Thursdays

For general enquiries regarding Scout issues please contact Adam Pearson: Group Scout Leader on 07561312050

For all member enquiries or to place your child's name on a waiting list please email: hayleya66@gmail.com

**63<sup>rd</sup> Barnsley (Silkstone) Brownies: Huskar Community Rooms**

Tracey Hinchliffe tel: 01226 790055

**Childminders**

For details of registered childminders please ring Families Information Service on: 0800 0345 340.

History

**Roggins Local History Group (Silkstone) & Silkstone Waggonway Restoration Group**

The group exhibits at local history fairs. We can set up small displays and talk to small groups.

Website : <http://www.priorycampus.co.uk/rlhg/roggins.php>

Contact: Jim Ritchie 01226-790695

e-mail ritchietj@aol.com

**Heritage Silkstone**

Contact: Don Sissons 01226-791130

<http://www.silkstonereflects.co.uk>

Churches

**All Saints Parish Church**

Contact The Rev Maureen Browell 01226 492294

**Silkstone Common Methodist Church**

Sunday Services at 10-30am (Second Sunday in the month at 10-15am at Dodworth Methodist Church). Sale of "Fairtrade" produce and light lunches bi-monthly on 3rd Saturday of the month. Please see notice board outside the church for details.

Contact for Methodist Church bookings Tel: 01226 790461.

Environment/Local interest

**Silkstone - St Florent Association**

The Parish of Silkstone is twinned with St Florent des Bois in the Vendee in France. Exchange visits are organised along with a variety of social and fund-raising events throughout the year.

Contact: Yvonne Dinsdale 790583

**Silkstone CARE Group**

Caring for and improving our natural environment by planting hedges, trees, shrubs and bulbs, clearing paths, litter-picking plus other activities. Tools available on free loan for environmental projects.

Contact: Graham Wells 790732

**Silkstone in Bloom**

Adds floral colour and more for public enjoyment.

Donations gratefully accepted.

Contact: Janet (Silkstone Common) 790994 or

Trudy (Silkstone) 792218

**TPT Silkstone**

Meets to improve the Trans Pennine Trail in our area.

Contact: Andy on andy\_1a2b@hotmail.com

Linda on lmx.13@gmail.com

or visit <http://groupspaces.com/TPTSilkstone>

General

**Silkstone Common Good Companions**

Provides companionship, entertainment and recreation for the senior citizens of the village. Meets fortnightly on Wednesdays 2-4pm in the Methodist Church Hall. New members are very welcome. Varied programme including theatre trips, visits, entertainments, Helpers welcome. Annual subscription £10 including refreshments, except on some special occasions.

Contact: Gill Jackson secretary gmsch@live.com

**Silkstone Common W.I.**

We have a wide variety of events and speakers. New members and visitors always welcome. Meets second Friday each month at 7:15pm Silkstone Common Methodist Church

Contact Christine on 792580 or just come to one of our meetings!

**Silkstone Luncheon Club for the over 60s**

Meets every Monday at 12 o'clock in the The Station Inn, Silkstone Common. New members always welcome. Please call 791670

**Tuesday Club**

A social afternoon held 2pm to 4pm weekly in Silkstone Common Methodist Church. Learn new skills and share your skills with others. Bring your knitting, sewing, crochet etc. or just bring yourself along for a relaxing afternoon and maybe make some new friends. We will be pleased to see you. Admission £1.00 including refreshments.

Contact Sue on 01226 791394