

The Winter Newsletter

Hello everyone and welcome to the winter edition of your newsletter. In this edition we have a lot of interesting articles including an interview with Phil Evans Head teacher of Silkstone Common Junior and Infant School. We had such a good response after our first local celebrity interview with Jim Travis our retiring Church Warden that we are to continue the theme of interviewing local people. These are people that have made a positive impact on our local community, Phil has kindly agreed to be our second celebrity, watch out for future interviews, you will be surprised to know who the future ones will be.

I don't think you could say that the Silkstone Newsletter is cutting edge journalism but I was surprised to see the headline in a local newspaper, "Warning as thefts of hay bales on rise". If you recall we reported in the autumn edition that the growing of grass for winter fodder had been difficult this year. Farmers have been warned to be on their guard following a rise in thefts of hay bales and fodder. The rise in price is due to a bad harvest following the cold winter and dry spring, all I can say is you heard it here first!

Unfortunately the Parish Council has been inundated with complaints about dog fouling. It's the one thing that seems to get you all very angry and upset. It's a very antisocial thing to do to allow your dog to foul a public place. The only place you don't have to clear up after your dog is in your own garden, because there it does not affect anyone else. In the past few months we have had complaints from residents regarding excrement in Silkstone Recreation Ground on the football, cricket pitches and banking, in Orchard Meadows, Martin Croft, Silkstone Common Recreation Ground and High Street. It's disgusting and a real health hazard especially to children so please be a responsible dog owner.

On to nicer things, I hope that you all have a very Happy Christmas and please remember that this is your newsletter and if you want anything included which involves our community then please let me know.

Season's Greetings

Diane

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Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors not necessarily the views and policies of the Parish Council.

Contact the Editor Diane Brown by email: diane.brown56@googlemail.com or write to her at 4 Stainmore Close, Silkstone.



Chairman's Letter Winter 2010

The Big Society

The first strand of The Big Society (See Parish Council Newsletter Autumn 2010) is Social action – to encourage “voluntarism, philanthropy, social action”

One of the problems with implementing the Big Society is the forthcoming increase in VAT from 17.5% to 20%. This will have the effect of taking £150 million out of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). VCS organisations, unlike Parish Councils, cannot reclaim their VAT so there will be a significant impact on organisations such as Voluntary Action Barnsley. They will no longer be able to provide the support and training required by community groups to enable them to influence the decisions that affect their community. This will be at a time when VCS services will be in increasing demand as the impact of the spending cuts takes hold. There will be little chance then that the government target of training 5,000 community organisers will be achieved. However, there is a shining light in this. There are about 80,000 parish councillors in England (about 100,000 if you include Wales) so as ever the solution is right in front of government eyes. Lets hope someone in Westminster can see the obvious.

Car Parking

We have a continuing problem with car parking in certain parts of the parish at different times of the day. Parking around the schools has long been a problem especially in Manor Park, but if care and consideration is given to where to park then there should be few problems. However, I have received complaints about people parking across driveways with the excuse “I’m only going to be a few minutes.” This is not a good reason for blocking someone’s driveway so please be considerate wherever you park.

Elections 2011

The next Parish Council elections will take place in May 2011. There had been some confusion as to whether they would take place due to the proposed referendum on the alternative voting system. The government has now confirmed that Parish Council elections will take place as planned. So if you would like to make a difference to your community, please consider standing for the Parish Council. If you have any questions, you can contact the Clerk or any councillor for further information.

Council Tax Freeze

There was also some confusion as to whether the governments approach to spending by local government would have an impact on Parish Council precepts. After some lobbying by both the National Association for Local Councils (NALC) and the Society for Local Council Clerks (SLCC), the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP, has stated that the freeze does not apply to local councils. However, the Parish Council will, as always, endeavour to ensure you receive the best value for your precept.

And Finally ...

On behalf of all the Parish Councillors, I’ll take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Derek Liddell
Chairman

Quote of the month

One man in a thousand is a leader the other 999 follow women

Groucho Marx



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Silkstone CARE Group October 2010

Thanks Rob , Thanks Mark



Silkstone CARE (Community Action in the Rural Environment) would like to publicly thank Rob, landlord of the Red Lion and Mark, landlord of the Station Inn for their support over the last ten years in allowing the set of three bottle banks to be sited in their car parks.

The funding that has been generated over the years from the glass re-cycling credits has enabled the group to plant a thousand trees, many shrubs, create the Silkstone Heritage Trail, landscape the Silkstone Recreation Ground, plant Millennium oaks and 26 Hazels for the Huskar Memorial in Nabbs Wood, clear footpaths, maintain the station gardens and many, many more projects to improve the natural environment in Silkstone and Silkstone Common as well as give financial support to the Roggins group (for the Waggonway Project) and Silkstone in Bloom to purchase flowers for the planters.

We are well aware that there is some inconvenience in having bottle banks on your sites which makes the gesture even more valued and we are sure that

everyone in the two villages will feel, as they look around, that we have made good use of your support (and are continuing to do so) by improving the environment and so making the area a more attractive place to live.

Your support has made such a difference and, although the income has reduced since the green and brown bin house collections and the lower value of re-cycled glass, it is still worthwhile as many people continue to use the bottle banks knowing it is for CARE.

Thanks Rob and Thanks Mark.

If you would like to know more about CARE or help as a volunteer, please ring Graham on 790732.

CARE group working dates

All are Saturday morning's meeting at 10.

11th. Dec 11– Cut back shrubs on Woodland View. Cut back overhang on Knabbs Lane to TPT entrances and 30 sign. Clear footpath entrance at top of Cone Lane near Ladyroyd. Meet at **Station Inn car park**

15th. January 11 – Work on Station gardens (if Northern Rail has completed their work). Meet at **Station Inn car park**

19th. Feb 11 – Clear footpath next to Red Lion Inn leading to Manor Park. Meet at **Red Lion Inn car park.**

12th. March 11 – Clear footpath west from TPT Knabbs Lane entrance to style and both TPT entrances. Meet at **Station Inn car park.**

HSE Guidance for the singing of Festive songs

To mark the start of the 'Happy Holidays' season, some advice from the Health & Safety Executive...

Jingle Bells

*Dashing through the snow
In a one horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way*

A risk assessment must be submitted before an open sleigh is considered safe for members of the public to travel on. The risk assessment must also consider whether it is appropriate to use only one horse for such a venture, particularly if passengers are of larger proportions.

Please note, permission must be gained from landowners before entering their fields. To avoid offending those not participating in celebrations, we would request that laughter is moderate only and not loud enough to be considered a noise nuisance.



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An Interview with Phil Evans

The Editor's interview with Phil Evans; Head teacher at Silkstone Common Junior and Infant School.

Phil Evans has been the Head at Silkstone Common J & I School since 1985, 25 years this year. He kindly agreed to be our second local celebrity to be interviewed for our newsletter, our first being Jim Travis who recently retired from being Churchwarden at our parish church. I had not met Phil before and it was a real pleasure to meet someone so nice and welcoming.

Phil enjoys his job enormously, his enthusiasm for the school is apparent and he has made a very real difference to all aspects of the school. The school performs well academically with the two last OFSTED reports classing the school as outstanding.

The fabric of the school has also been improved whilst Phil has been Head. I used to live round the corner from the school and used to go to the discos which were held there in the early 80's. I could not believe the difference in the building from then to present day. Inside the school is bright, spacious and I was amazed by the high specification Information Technology suite. There are computers that at a press of a button come out of the desk! Very impressive, however I was most impressed by the new hall. It's huge and ideal for children to enjoy physical activity.

A bit of a change from the room we all used to dance in. Apparently the old hall was not actually a hall but a marching corridor which as the name suggests was simply designed for the children to march in when the weather was bad and they could not go out to play. There were a lot of marching corridors built in schools in the early 1900's and at that time were the very latest thinking for keeping children active.

The outside of the school is equally impressive with the old and the new fitting together seamlessly. The old part of the school was built in 1913 a very solid and robust building; it was an excellent idea for the new part of the school to be designed to blend in with the old.

Phil was very eager to state that his achievements were only possible because he heads up an effective team. He says that the governors, teaching staff and parents all help him to do his job. He likens his role as Head teacher to that of a football manager; you are only as good as your team. I agree with Phil but to be an effective manager you have to have a good personality and be able to motivate people. We don't all have these qualities but I believe that Phil has them in abundance. I should imagine that he is a joy to work with and inspires his colleagues and pupils to do their best.

In his spare time Phil enjoys the great outdoors; he loves walking and finds the peace of the countryside very relaxing. He also enjoys gardening, music and is an active member of our CARE group. Phil did not start his working life as a teacher but as an accountant. In his early 20's he decided that accountancy was not for him and switched careers to teaching. He has never regretted it and has thoroughly enjoyed being a teacher and helping our young people to fulfil their learning potential.

Phil firmly believes that a school should be a happy place where children want to come to school and enjoy learning. Phil has thought recently about retiring but it would be a real wrench for him to leave a place he loves so much. The timing of his retirement will be a very difficult decision for him to make as he is such a part of the school. He will, I think, be a hard act to follow.

It was a real pleasure for me to meet Phil he is a lovely man, and we are very lucky to have such a capable person as Head teacher of one of our schools. So a very heartfelt thank you to you Phil and all the best to you for the future.

Diane Brown

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Old Silkstone Brass Band would like to appeal to the people of Silkstone and Silkstone Common.

The band was formed in 1861 by Coniah Stringer who was the choirmaster at All Saints Church, Silkstone. At this time the Church possessed a harmonium, which, accompanied by a few string instruments, led the singing of the choir. When a pipe organ was acquired the stringed instruments were dispensed with and Coniah promptly bought himself a cornet. By raising local subscriptions, he also bought another six brass instruments. Thus, Old Silkstone Band was born.

The band started playing in the fourth section and over the years have worked their way up to the prestigious Championship Section, competing against bands such as Black Dyke, Brighouse and Rastrick, Grimethorpe Colliery just to name a few in the Yorkshire area. It is hard for a self supporting local village band to keep up to this standard and we are finding it ever more difficult to attract players and funding.

For probably more than 100 years, Old Silkstone Band has played a big part in village life, performing at church garden parties, harvest festivals, Silkstone sing, Armistice parades, concerts and other events in the village.

In 2001 we held our first annual 'Hymn and March' contest to promote brass banding. This is the only one in the Barnsley area and it has attracted many bands, given pleasure to many people, and helped to put Silkstone on the map.

The band is celebrating 150 years in 2011; we were hoping to hold several celebratory events next year but if we don't get any more players or funding, sadly the band will have to fold. Many brass bands are struggling these days, but it would be sad to lose yet another part of our local village tradition.

The band usually plays carols around Silkstone Common on the Sunday before Christmas and then around Silkstone on Boxing Day. Unfortunately, if we are not able to drum up more support, it may not happen this year.

If there are any players, ex players, brass players you know who could help to keep the band going, or anyone who would like to learn how to play a brass instrument, also non players are welcome who could help in the running of the band, please get in touch with:

Stuart O' Connor (Tel. 01226791388, Mob. 07921261804) or **David O' Connor (Tel. 01226790669, Mob. 07766442081)**

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Heritage Silkstone wins first bid for heritage enrichment.

Heritage Silkstone and their partners All Saints Church are another step along the road to the fulfilment of their project "Silkstone reflects on the Church Heritage" by being awarded a development grant of £7045 by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

HLF has given the go-ahead to work up plans to conserve windows and the Sir Thomas Wentworth monument in the church and develop a creative learning and interpretation programme for residents and visitors.

The HLF first round pass means that they have up to two years to submit detailed plans and apply for the further £175,000 of HLF support that they are seeking.

The Rev Simon Moor Vicar of Silkstone and Chairman of Heritage Silkstone said, "This is great news; although only a first step. We would hope to complete the project by December 2014 the anniversary of the death of Joseph Bramah, a favourite son of the parish".

As part of the project an inaccessible space in the church's west tower will be used as a heritage room via a new staircase. This will provide a resource to facilitate the understanding of the rich history of the ancient parish of Silkstone and its national significance, to be called the Bramah Gallery.

This new resource will improve facilities and enhance visitor enjoyment of Silkstone as a heritage tourist destination.

As part of the 2nd round application the group must carry out further public consultation. We hope that we can show that there is a demand for this new public space in the church, where visitors may enjoy learning about the rich heritage of the church and the district, carrying on the excellent work done by the Roggins Local History Group. There are copies of a questionnaire in the church, where you may wish to express your views of the planned developments, and we hope that you will fill one in during your next visit.

Brain teaser

I am a 6 letter word.

Letters 6 5 2 spell out a drink

Letters 4 5 2 3 spell out a fruit

Letters 1 2 6 spell out a pet

Letters 3 2 5 spell out a pest, which often gets eaten by 1 2 6

What am I?

Answers on page 13

Heritage Silkstone Projects: an introduction

The conservation side of Heritage Silkstone's project focuses on the windows and Wentworth monument.

Twenty mainly Victorian windows include six by M & A O'Connor, and one by Shrigley and Hunt designed by Carl Almquist; one window of plain quarries includes two shields dating from the 14th and 16th centuries.

The Wentworth monument is a splendid sarcophagus in white marble on which lie the recumbent effigies of Sir Thomas Wentworth Baronet who died in 1675 and his wife Grace who died 1698. The memorial is considered a good example of a knight in armour and has relief trophies against the sides. There is a strong presumption that the sculptor was Jasper Latham although Claudius Rene has also been mentioned.

Heritage Silkstone is a local heritage group which aims to preserve and further the understanding of the heritage of Silkstone for future generations and stimulate public interest in Silkstone and the surrounding areas by providing facilities for the study, preservation and dissemination of the local heritage.

Heritage Silkstone was formed in December 2009 to capitalise on the support for heritage activities by the ad hoc Huskar 170 grouping formed in 2007; and also to further build on the work carried out over the last 21 years by the Roggins History Group.

FOR MORE: Please contact Donald Sisson Coordinator of the project for Heritage Silkstone on 01226791130 Or raydonuk@btopenworld.com

Supported by
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through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Village Life In War Time

The Second World War is, quite rightly, getting plenty of coverage in the media at the moment. As we go through a string of 70th anniversaries of various events relating to the war plus a regular reminder of what the horrors must have been like with an almost daily casualty list from Afghanistan this coverage seems set to continue for some time to come.

In his recent autobiography Michael Parkinson says that *"In many ways, in spite of my father's obsession with Hitler, the war passed us by. Miners were not required to join up. They were essential workers, therefore our village was comparatively untouched by the sorrow of war"*. This might be an over simplification of the situation as you only have to look at the various war memorials in the villages around Barnsley to know that many men were out there fighting and a lot didn't make it back. But in fairness to Michael Parkinson compared to many of our cities places like Cudworth and Silkstone Common came out of the war pretty well unscathed.

The School Log books (Silkstone Common) give us a flavour of what village life must have been like during those years.

1939

- Aug 31 Ordered to close school tomorrow Sept 1st owing to Evacuation Order on account of international situation.
Staff only to be present
- Sep 14 War declared with Germany – yesterday Sunday at 11am
School closed according to regulations issued on May 31st by B of E for one week (Board of Education?)
- Sep 7 Two private evacuees from Birmingham. Two from Sheffield and one from London admitted
- Sep 14 Practised Gas Mask drill and Air Raid precautions.
Children arranged in three Groups
(a) Those remaining in school
(b) Those going into fields
(c) Those going home
All by consent of parents
Dr Lindas visited pm concerning government evacuees. We had none only five private evacuees
Two from Sheffield. Two from Birmingham. One from London

1940

- Apr 20 Old Boys' Club held a Dance to provide comforts for those serving with the Forces
- Aug 9 School closed for a fortnight only owing to the war
Children tired out-not having had a holiday since Easter apart from Whit Monday
All evacuees now returned
- Oct 30 Owing to the Woodwork Instructor M S Jagger leaving for munitions the woodwork class was not held
- Nov 14 Incendiary Bombs near the School at Partridgedale. 10pm
- Dec 4 Evacuees from London received in School 11 am

1941

- Mar 19 Mrs Forsyth absent 10 am to 12 noon attending Police Court Barnsley for not drawing blind in dining room after Black Out time. Fined £2 + costs
- Mar 24 Received nine evacuees from Shoreham by Sea Sussex
- | | | |
|------------------|-----|----------|
| Joyce Rebbeck | 4st | 8 ½ lbs |
| Raymond Rebbeck | 4st | 1 ¼ lbs |
| Fred Nutter | 3st | 11 ¾ lbs |
| George Nutter | 4st | 10 ¼ lbs |
| Donald Covington | 5st | 5 lbs |
| Olive Evans | 4st | 6 ¼ lbs |
| Rosemarie Evans | 5st | 4 ½ lbs |
| Iris Covington | 5st | 7 ½ lbs |
| Greta Neale | 6st | 7 ½ lbs |
- Apr 10 Blast walls erected in front of doors and windows of porches and staffroom
Meeting held by Billeting Committee concerning the bad conduct of the boy evacuee Raymond Rebbeck. Suggested that he return to the Shoreham by-Sea Children's Home from which he came. (*Sent to Bradfield a few days later instead*)
Joyce Rebbeck moved to Silkstone
- July 24 War Savings Stamps were given as prizes (*Sports Day*).
1st 1/6 2nd 1/- 3rd 6d stamps for all events
- Oct 27 Black out curtains put up by Burtons of Birdwell
- Dec 23 The evacuees from West Sussex had tea & concert at Silkstone organised by Miss Knight

1942

Sept 4 Mr Wintersque visited a.m. concerning Mary Betts (*evacuee*) being sent for treatment to Children's Hospital, Leasowe, Nr Birkenhead-Liverpool (*TB Hospital*)

1943

Feb 26 School railings taken down for the War effort
June 3 A collection for Overseas Tobacco Fund for the Forces realised £1-15-0

1944

June 23 Salute the Soldiers Week
School Target £100
Amount raised £143.16.6
Sep 22 Ronald Lawson a former pupil of this school won the D.F.C.

1945

May 8 V.E. (Victory in Europe) Day. School closed
May 9 V.E. + 1 Day. School closed
War Ended officially 12.1 am the 9th

Phil Evans

Silkstone Common J&I School

Wonderfully Made

A huge thank you to all involved. Who would have thought so many people would have come through the doors? All Pennine Artists and guest artists displayed a fantastic array of goods of exceptionally high quality and diversity providing the perfect opportunity for purchasing unique gifts.

Suberb drinks and food were laid on by Dorothy Travis and her dedicated team of ladies who, by Saturday afternoon, had soup and tea coming out of their ears! Pat Smith is now sick of seeing mulled wine and mince pies! Jim Travis once again came out of Church Warden retirement to take on the mammoth task of turning the church into a workshop and art gallery, Rachel Sisson and her trusty Securicor Guard Don provided their services with the money. Thanks also go to Worrall Male Voice Choir, Loxely Silver Band, Eddie and the Parrots and Simon Brock for their live music which set the scene and made for a relaxing atmosphere. Lastly and not by any means least thanks got to the customers who spent their money and gave us their support. This had been a real team effort and we hope to be donating in the region of £1,800 to church funds.

Simon has agreed to let us do it all again so see you next year Nov 2011 at 'Wonderfully Made 2'

Rachel Poole

The Red Lion



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Silkstone Parish Council Meetings for 2011

The Statutory Annual Parishioners' Meeting (APM) was held in Silkstone in 2010 and so will be held at Silkstone Common Methodist Chapel in 2011

Day	Date	Type	Location
Mon	10-Jan-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	07-Feb-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	07-Mar-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	04-Apr-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Tues	19-Apr-11	APM	Silkstone Common Methodist Chapel
Mon	09-May-11	Annual Council	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	06-Jun-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	04-Jul-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	05-Sept-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	03-Oct-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	07-Nov-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion
Mon	05-Dec-11	PC	Silkstone Sports Pavilion

Parish Councillors

Name	Address	Tel	Email
Derek Liddell (Chairman)	15 Black Horse Drive, Silkstone Common, S75 4SD	790509	derek.liddell@btinternet.com
Richard Leech (Vice Chairman)	17 Towngate Silkstone, S75 4SW	791679	rich@richardleech.co.uk
Colin Bower	15 Woodland Rise, Silkstone Common, Barnsley, S75 4RP	790416	colin@l-online.co.uk
Richard Brocklehurst	25 Lady Royd, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4SF	794280	brockandsykes@hotmail.co.uk
Jonathan Charlesworth	Broad Close Farm, Cone Lane, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4SW	790900	jxcharl@aol.com
Mrs Pat Gallamore	38 Towngate, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4SW	791716	None
Peter Handley	24 Guest Lane, Silkstone Common, Barnsley, S75 4LF	790784	p.m.handley@dsl.pipex.com
Patrick Smith	27 Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common, Barnsley, S75 4QT	790596	pat.s1@talktalk.net
Ron Stier	5 Beech Avenue, Silkstone Common, Barnsley, S75 4RH	790074	None
Clerk			
Mrs Karen Canadine	40 St Andrews, Drive, Darton, Barnsley, S75 5LX	391343	silkstoneclerk@tiscali.co.uk

BT's Race to infinity

Over the next five years BT is rolling out superfast fibre optic broadband across the UK. This would increase broad band speeds from 5.5Mb (max current speed) to 20Mb. This area is not on the announced roll out plan, however we do have the chance to get on it if enough people vote here. You do not have to be a BT customer to vote, as long as you have a landline you can vote.

<http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/>

The five areas with the largest percentage of votes by December 31st 2010 will win the chance to bring superfast broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5,000 of computer equipment to a local community project.

- Top speeds affected by various factors including distance from the cabinet and internal wiring.
- Winning exchanges will be enabled in early 2012 subject to availability, survey, terms and conditions
- Exchanges need 1,000 premises votes to be eligible to be one of the winning exchanges
- One vote per address
- Race ends midnight 31st December 2010

Of the 2108 households who can vote, only 36 have so far!
Please vote.

The 2011 Census is coming

The census has collected information about the population every ten years since 1801 (except in 1941). The next census in England and Wales is on March 27th 2011.

The census tells us how many people live where and the types of people they are (young, old, married, single). This means decisions, like working out who needs facilities in the future, are focused on accurate, relevant details.

Millions of pounds shared out.

The Department of Communities and Local Government and the Department of Health allocate money to local and health authorities. Census statistics feed into that process. That's why you need to be counted to make sure that your community is properly represented in the decision-making process.

Your community and family benefit.

You need to take complete and return the Census form so that the services and facilities your community / family uses can be identified. These services include schools, hospitals and emergency services. Census statistics help work out the amount of funding allocated to facilities in communities.

2011 Census - Help Tomorrow Take Shape

Snow clearance

Government have issued guidance on clearing snow from the pavements outside your home.

Basically it says that there is no law preventing home owners from clearing snow and ice from public walkways and that as long as common sense is used there is no risk of legal action.

The link for the guidelines is :

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/N11/Newsroom/DG_191868

Scuba diving?

If you've ever fancied scuba diving now is a good time to give it a go! Start now/after Christmas and be ready to go diving by the summer in the UK or abroad.

TryDives available from Barnsley BSAC Divers ,£10, also available as gift packs.

Visit www.barnsleybsacdivers.co.uk for more information or visit them at The Metrodome, in the Rigby bar on Tuesday nights from 7:30 onwards and the dive pool from 8:30 onwards.


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Westfield Park Equestrian Centre, Knabbs Lane,

Silkstone Pharmacy

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Opening Hours
Monday to Friday 8:30am-5:30pm

01226 791838 or 791008
3 High Street, Silkstone, Barnsley



Dogs in public areas

DOG owners are being asked to avoid walking and exercising their pets in children's play areas and on sport pitches within the parish.

Barnsley Council's Regulatory Services department has been receiving complaints about people who exercise or allow their dogs to enter these areas. At a recent Parish Council meeting Paul Denton from Regulatory Services gave a presentation on the work that their officers do in an attempt to catch irresponsible dog owners. He described how regular patrols are carried out in problem areas, often with the officers being in plain clothes, lamp post signs, stencils and post cards are also used to remind dog owners of their responsibilities. He then went on to advise how any information provided can assist with investigations and allow officers to target specific times and areas. For example dates, times, locations of when and where offences have taken place, along with vehicle registrations and descriptions of dogs and owners.

In conclusion Paul said he would like to remind dog owners that dogs on children's playgrounds and sport pitches represent a major health and injury hazard.

Nationally, over 350,000 tons of dog excrement is deposited each year in public places and over 100 people, mainly children, have eye diseases caused by

swallowing the Toxocara egg each year. This is due to the parasitic roundworm that can be found in dog faeces. There is evidence that dogs also carry e.coli and hepatitis in their faeces.

As well as the health risks that dog faeces present, 1600 children are taken to hospital casualty departments in the UK each year with dog bites

There is legislation which requires people to ensure that their dogs are kept under control at all times and it is a criminal offence to allow a dog to foul in a public place and fail to pick up after it.

Dog faeces should be picked up straight away, securely wrapped and tied in a plastic bag and put in a bin. Dog walkers should always carry a plastic bag with them.

Since April 2010, 34 residents in the borough have been issued with fixed penalty fines of £50 for dog fouling and two people taken to court and prosecuted. These two people were then publicly named in the local press and received financial penalties totalling nearly £600.

Cabinet Spokesperson for Customer and Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Roy Miller, said: *"Even if you consider your dog to be of good, friendly temperament please do not take it into play and sports areas. Consider other people's children who may have a fear or allergy to dogs."*

"All dogs can become overexcited when around children playing, due to their noise and movement, which could result in unanticipated injury should the dog jump up or nip the child."

For advice or to report problems, contact Regulatory Services by phoning 772468 or by emailing regulatoryservices@barnsley.gov.uk.

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Silkstone United Cricket Club

Silkstone United Cricket Club had another very successful season in 2010.

There was competitive cricket in the Barnsley junior cricket league for the under 11,13,15 and 17 age groups, with the under 15's being the most successful in their respective league.

The adult section has had a most memorable season in the Huddersfield Central Cricket league.

The 2nd team was crowned section E champions in only their 2nd season, a marvellous achievement.

Congratulations to Captain Nick Armitage and all the 2nd team players who are promoted to section D.

The 1st team was also crowned league champions of section B which was their THIRD title and THIRD promotion in a row!! A truly amazing achievement. They will now compete in section A in the 2011 season. Congratulations to all the 1st team players and let's hope they can go all the way and win promotion to the premier league at the first time of asking!!

Darron Walker (1st team Captain)

When to feed wild birds

Although winter feeding benefits birds most, food shortages can occur at any time of the year. By feeding the birds year round, you'll give them a better chance to survive the periods of food shortage whenever they may occur.



Autumn and winter

At this time of year, put out food and water on a regular basis. In severe weather, feed twice daily if you can: in the morning and in the early afternoon.

Birds require high energy (high fat) foods during the cold winter weather to maintain their fat reserves to survive the frosty nights. Use only good quality food and scraps.

Always adjust the quantity given to the demand, and never allow uneaten foods to accumulate around the feeders. Once you establish a feeding routine, try not to change it as the birds will become used to it and time their visits to your garden accordingly.

Keep it clean to avoid birds getting diseases

Clean your bird feeders regularly. Ideally, add disinfectant to the washing up liquid. Also move the feeders every month if you can.

The Ring O' Bells, Silkstone
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www.ringobellssilkstone.co.uk

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Silkstone Common Rec facelift

The Silkstone Common Recreation Ground is owned by CISWO and held in trust and managed by Barnsley MBC. Following the fire at the Recreation Ground's changing facility in 1996 the 'insurance' money has been held by Barnsley MBC. The Parish Council and Barnsley MBC have worked together to try and improve the area over the years.

The insurance money was nowhere near enough to replace the changing facility and new regulations meant that it was impossible to replace the structure. Some of the money was used to improve the drainage of the football field in 2004, unfortunately this drainage didn't really work and officers at BMBC advised that no amount of further drainage would improve the playing surface for football.

It was agreed between Silkstone PC and Barnsley MBC that the remaining fund should be used to improve the existing facilities. Silkstone Parish Council produced a questionnaire which was distributed to all homes in Silkstone Common and to pupils at the junior school. The result of the questionnaire was that actually most residents liked to have an open space and didn't want it to be filled up with more play equipment etc.

As a result of this questionnaire the Parish Council proposed that:

the existing basketball court be fenced in to provide a MUGA (Multi use games area)

a footpath be created from the access road to the MUGA and

a new cricket wicket be created.

The access road is also to be improved by widening the road to its original width which has become overgrown over time. The Parish Council also requested that the football goal posts which are usually removed at the end of the football season are left on site all year round for youngsters to play football all year.

The Parish Council are pleased that this work is now being carried out and thank the officers of Barnsley MBC for acting on the Parish Council's recommendations for the site.

Brain teaser answer

652 = tea

4523 = pear

126 = cat

325 = rat

I am a CARPET

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Barnsley Civic - dare to be different!

Have a look at the Civic website and book something!

It's a great venue for all sorts of events, from those aimed at children. I took our grandchildren there recently - they were enthralled. I never thought I would like modern dance, but after seeing Four Soldiers earlier in the year I've booked for more and not been disappointed.

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

They also have regular displays in the gallery - going next the Brit Insurance Design Award Winners, Free entry Friday 19 November - Friday 14 January

The Lamproom

The Lamproom also has a regularly changing set of events.. Download their brochure here.

<http://www.barnsleylamproom.com>

Linda Marsh



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Tel: 01226 790441
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Do you need a neighbourhood watch in your area?

The Police Force is there to fight crime but they need the help of the general public in order to be effective. Crime affects us all and Neighbourhood Watch is all about us working in partnership with the police.

Neighbourhood watch schemes have a proven record in:

- Cutting crime and the opportunities for crime.
- Reassurance and help for all the community including the elderly and the vulnerable
- Encouraging better neighbour and community relations

If you are interested in setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in your area, please contact Tony Fieldsend, Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator, 6, Moored Lane, Silkstone Common, Telephone 791127

Please contact the Parish Clerk on 391343 or silkstoneclerk@tiscali.co.uk if you wish to add your group to this list or amend any details of your local group on the Local Organisations pages.

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1 Gunthwaite Lane,
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Tel: 01484 868249



Music

Silkstone Common Ladies Choir

Singing for pleasure. Meets Mondays, Silkstone Common Methodist Church 7:45pm

Contact: Mrs B Herbert 790167

Old Silkstone Band

Meets twice a week, Monday and Thursdays

Contact: David O'Connor on 790669 or 07921261804
Stuart O' Connor on 791388 or 07921261804

Silkstone Bell Ringers

Meet every Monday Silkstone Church 7:30pm-9:00pm

Contact: Caroline Charlesworth

Shake Rattle and Roll Children's Music Group

Babies to 4 year old children welcome.

Singing, dancing, playing musical instruments, puppets and story time. A music group which helps to develop children's personal, social and emotional development.

Please come along and bring along mum, dad or carer to join in the fun.

We meet every Friday from 10 am until 11 noon including some school holidays at Silkstone Common Methodist Church, Ben Bank Road, Silkstone Common. Tea, Coffee, Juice and Biscuits included.

Contact Tracy for further details on 01226 790240

Millhouse Green Male Voice Choir.

Practice night is Mondays in Millhouse Green Institute at 7.30. Secretary Melvyn Dyson Tel No 01226 766286.

Web site www.mgmvc.co.uk

White Rose Organ Society

Professional Electronic Organs Concerts and Social Events. Meet fortnightly on Tuesdays at Silkstone Lodge, Cone Lane, 7.30pm. All visitors welcome.

Contact. Mr. Frank Wensley, 01226 383513 or see village notices.

Visit also our website www.wros.talktalk.net

Penistone Safer Neighbourhood Team

Golden line 01226-736387

Call this number to report Anti Social Behaviour such as fly tipping, littering, grafitti, burnt out cars etc

Police Contact Numbers

01142-202020 for all non emergencies and enquiries
01142-196761 use this number if you have hearing difficulties
0800-555-111 to call crimestoppers and report a crime anonymously
999 in the event of an emergency, if a crime is on-going or if there is danger to life.

Sports/Activities

Silkstone United Football Club

Contact: Andy Horsfield 791929

Silkstone United Junior Football Club

Under 11's (year 6) Steve High tel. 07970249411

Under 12's (year 7) John Ward tel. 07786 525000

Under 13's year 8) Kevin Grimshaw tel. 01226 791613

Under 14's (year 9) Shane Jackson tel. 01226 390769

Under 16's (year 11) Alan French tel. 07816076396

Under 17's (year 12) Mark Pearson tel. 01226 766777

Please phone the relevant manager for details.

Silkstone United Cricket Club :

Headquarters: Ring o' Bells, Silkstone

Coaching / Practice night

7- 13 year old, Mondays 6-8pm

U15's / U17's / Adults Tuesday's 6-8pm

Contacts:

U11's Kevin Taylor 790703 / 07771 940 733

U13's Owen Dyson 790956 / 07950 267 678

U15's & Club Secretary Stephen Chambers 387412 / 07836 733 852

U17's / 1st XI Darron Walker 791203 / 07887 518 980

2nd XI Daniel Walker 791203 / 07885 772 298

Website: www.silkstoneutd.play-cricket.com .

Silkstone Lodge Bowling Club

Secretary David Harris on Barnsley 790051

Barnsley BSAC Divers

Meets every Tuesday 7:30 onwards in the Rigby Bar at the Metrodome. Anyone interested in diving is welcome whether already qualified or wanting to learn. Try Dives can also be booked.

Contact Trevor on 07783 291955 or visit the website www.barnsleybsacd Divers.co.uk

Churches

All Saints Parish Church

Morning service and Eucharist 9:15am 1st, 3rd and 5th

Sunday, 10:45am 2nd and 4th Sunday.

Evening Service 6:45pm 1st and 3rd Sunday

Contact Rev Simon A. Moor 790232

Silkstone Common Methodist Church

Morning Service and LIGHT group (young people)

Sundays at 10-30am

Thursday LIGHT group (5-11 year olds) Alternate Thursdays from 3-45pm to 5-00pm

Sale of "Fairtrade" produce and coffee morning – second Saturday in the month from 10-30am to 12 noon

Contact for Methodist Church bookings Tel: 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 Parish CARE Group

Aims to improve the natural environment. Activities include planting hedges, trees, bulbs. Carries out litter-picks. Tools available on loan to volunteer groups. Promotes caring for the environment.

Contact: Graham Wells 790732

Silkstone in Bloom

Add floral colour for public enjoyment. Donations gratefully accepted.

Contact: Jean Morrison 790036 (Silkstone) or Janet Barrett 790994 (Silkstone Common)

Hadrian's Drystone Walling

Drystone Walling in South Yorkshire
www.southyorkshiredswa.org.uk

History

Roggins Local History Group

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

Contact: Jim Ritchie 790685

Heritage Silkstone

Contact: Colin Bower 790 416 or colin@i-online.co.uk

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 £3, refreshments 50p

Contact: Mrs Brayshaw 790196, Terry Daniel 386755

Royal British Legion Silkstone Branch

Meets on the second Friday in each month at 7:30pm
Branch HQ Silkstone Lodge

Contact: J.D. Mathews, 16 Stanhope Avenue Cawthorne

Silkstone Common W.I.

Meets second Friday each month at 7:15pm Silkstone
Common Methodist Church

Silkstone Luncheon Club for the over 60s

Meets every Monday at 12 o'clock in the Ring O' Bells.
New members always welcome. Please call **791670**

Children

Silkstone Pre-School Playgroup

Ofsted registered and Pre-School Learning Alliance. Accredited setting. Offers term-time sessional care from 2 years onwards. Fully qualified caring staff. Lunch club available. Childcare vouchers accepted.

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

Visit us at www.silkstonepreschool.co.uk

Edward Bear Baby & Toddler Group

The playgroup meets at the Methodist Church, Silkstone Common on Monday & Wednesday Mornings 9am to 11.30am

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

Contact: Emma 790551

Silkstone Scouts, Guides and Brownies

Headquarters Silkstone Rec.

Cubs: youngsters 8-11 yrs, 6:30am-8pm Tuesdays

Scouts: boys and girls 10 ½ - 15 ½ yrs 7pm-9pm
Mark Slater: Group Scout Leader 29th Barnsley (Silkstone)
01226 767546 Markj121@hotmail.com

Guides: girls 10-15 yrs **Tel:** Freda Hope 01226 282645

Brownies: girls 7-10 yrs **Tel:** Tracey Hinchliffe 01226 790055

Childminders

For details of registered childminders please ring Childcare Information Service on: 0800 345340

Schools

Silkstone Common Junior & Infant School

Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common. Educates children 4-11 yrs

Contact: Mr Evans 790471

Silkstone Primary School

Educates children 4-11 yrs. The school is interested in developing the use of the school outside normal school hours.

Contact: Mr Simon Barber 790333

Little giants out of school & holiday club

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

Phone 0785 4710299



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