



# Silkstone Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 68 Spring 2015

## Notices

Silkstone Parish Council is saddened to announce that **Councillor Peter Handley** passed away unexpectedly on Saturday (28 February 15).

Peter had been a member of Silkstone Parish Council since 2003 and Vice Chairman for the last 3 years.

He was an extremely valued and respected member of the Parish Council. He will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts and sympathy are with his family at this sad time.

**Silkstone Parish Council**

## Newsletter contacts

The Editor of this newsletter is Diane Brown. 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 the new editor Meryl Liddell on [meryl.liddell@btinternet.com](mailto:meryl.liddell@btinternet.com)

**If you wish to 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 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

*More council contacts on page 14*

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## Hello Everyone

And a Happy New Year to you all! A bit late I know but better late than never. I hope you all had an enjoyable festive season and that 2015 is proving to be a good one. This edition of your newsletter is packed as always with interesting and relevant information. The Parish Council also has a web site for further information which includes all the previous editions of the newsletter. Silkstone Parish Council also has its own Face Book page so please take a look and like our page if you are able.

I was really happy to hear that our very own Kathryn Smith has been awarded an MBE and went to Buckingham Palace last month to collect it. Kathryn is a teacher at Silkstone Common Primary School and was my celebrity interviewee in December 2011. She was given her award by Princess Anne and had a day to remember accompanied by her mum twin sister and one of her daughters. Well done Kathryn for all your hard work an achievement well deserved.

My celebrity interview for this newsletter is with David O' Connor; David has been involved with the Old Silkstone Band all of his life. He was born into a brass band family and is passionate about carrying on this heritage in Silkstone.

I have also been contacted by Tony Clegg regarding Silkstone United Cricket Club; cricket is another part of our village heritage and is currently doing very well. The club is looking for sponsorship so if you feel you can help then please contact Tony on 0797222820.

Our local historian Andy Horsfield continues the journey into life in Silkstone during World War One; everyone thought it would be over by Christmas 1914. One hundred years ago in March 1914 people would have been coming around to the idea that this war was going to last longer than initially thought. They could not have known as yet that it was to last for another four cruel years.

*Continued on page 3*

## SILKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL 2015 ELECTION

*Are you interested in becoming a Parish Councillor?*

If you would like to discuss the role of a Parish Councillor please contact:

Parish Clerk - Karen Canadine on 01226-391343 or e-mail [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com) OR Chairman – Richard Leech [rich@richardleech.co.uk](mailto:rich@richardleech.co.uk)

Nomination packs will be available from 23 March 15 from the Electoral Services Office on the Second Floor of the Town Hall, Barnsley.

All nominations must be returned to the Electoral Services Office between 31 March 15 and 4pm on 9 April 15

There are 9 seats on Silkstone Parish Council so if more than 9 candidates are nominated an election will be held.

**ELECTION DAY IS 7 MAY 15**



## Silkstone United Cricket Club: A Community Asset

The first recorded scorecard of cricket being played in the name of Silkstone dates back to 1859, in a narrow defeat to Barnsley!

Move forward over 150 years and cricket is still prominent at the heart of the village community. Playing at the Recreation Ground behind the garage, Silkstone United CC are a progressive, inclusive club heavily involved with the latest local developments in cricket development and coaching.

The club has over 200 members across its adult and junior sections. Over 80% of the membership is drawn from the two villages of Silkstone and Silkstone Common (hence the Silkstone United!)

Owen Dyson, club chairman, says *"The club is a constant in the local community, we have players in our open age teams that have played over 30 years for the club and live and breathe Silkstone. Then, at the other end, we've got 5 and 6 year olds learning how to hit a ball for the first time at our Monday evening summer sessions. We see ourselves as very much a club for the whole community."*

Whilst being entirely inclusive in its approach, the club is proud to have seen junior members develop and play representative cricket over the last 12 months. Nearly half the current Under 15 team are involved in current trials for South Yorkshire, and Rebecca Coe had trials at Headingley recently with Yorkshire Girls Under 13s.

With two more volunteer coaches being put through their qualifications this winter, Silkstone will have a ratio of coaches to players that will be the envy of many local clubs in the summer of 2015.

The club are currently actively seeking sponsorship partners for the forthcoming campaign, with options for local businesses to suit most budgets. The club genuinely see this as an excellent opportunity for local businesses to align themselves to a community asset, with a wide membership and a reach across the whole of South Yorkshire through the leagues that the club operates in.

For further enquiries, please contact Tony Clegg on 07967 222820.

**Tony Clegg**



### Silkstone United Cricket Club

We are an inclusive, progressive cricket club at the heart of the local community, operating from Silkstone Recreation Ground, (behind the garage).

Contacts :

Development Group and U9s : Tony Clegg 07967 222820

U11s : Lee Wilford 07931 298213

U13s : Simon Knight 07905 751107

U15s : Kevin Taylor 07462 877416

Open Age Section : Tony Clegg or Kevin Taylor on the above numbers

## Silkstone United Cricket Club

### Umpire(s) required for the 2015 season.

Silkstone United Cricket Club has been successful in their application to join the South Yorkshire Senior Cricket League for the start of the 2015 season.

The league rules state that each club must supply an umpire to represent each club team. Silkstone United CC is fielding a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> eleven in the SYSCL and currently we only have 1 umpire to represent the club.

SYSCL matches are mainly played on Saturday's from April to September; the start time varies between 12:30 and 13:30 dependent on the time of year. Umpires can be male or female.

What is required? A commitment to umpire at a number of matches per season. There are 22 matches a season and if it helps you could share the match workload between friends / colleagues who might also like to help out.

What are the benefits? You will be paid £36 per match and receive a free tea on match day. You can join up with the existing Silkstone club umpire and share a lift to the grounds or elect to stand at Silkstone's home games only.

The cricket club and the league will pay for any training that you may need and you would automatically be enrolled as a club member.

If you are interested and would like to discuss this in more detail, please contact Owen Dyson (Chairman and club umpiring representative) either by email [owen.dyson@gmail.com](mailto:owen.dyson@gmail.com) or by telephone 01226 790956 or 07455 099 698.



*Continued from page 1*

It was said to be the war to end all wars and sadly it was not.

This will be my last newsletter as I have decided to hang up my editing boots! This is believe it or not my sixth year as editor doesn't time fly? I have lived in Silkstone most of my life buying my first house as a newlywed in 1978. My first home was the newly built number 2, Orchard Close Silkstone Common, I then moved to Stainmore Close Silkstone in 1984. I have now moved out of the village though my ties remain strong with family and friends still living here. I have such a lot of fond memories especially whilst living on Stainmore Close where I made such wonderful friends and where my daughter Elizabeth had such a lovely childhood. Life does not stay the same and we have to make the most of every challenge given to us. After all if we live in the past we deny ourselves a future. I heard Graham Norton say that on the radio the other day and I thought it a poignant statement about change!

I would like to thank everyone at Silkstone Parish Council particularly Karen the Clerk and Richard the Chair. I would like to thank all my celebrity

interviewees for their kindness and consideration, I thoroughly enjoyed every interview. I think Silkstone is lucky to have so many good people who are willing to give up so much of their time and effort for this community. During my time as editor I have been impressed by the dedication given by some individuals, Cllr Ron Stier deserves a mention for all his hard work particularly with the sports pavilion and playing fields. Graham Wells too deserves a special thank you for his hard work with the CARE Group. I must mention our dedicated litter pickers Tony and June Fieldsend who tirelessly try and keep Cone Lane litter free. It is now a way of life unfortunately for the ignorant and stupid to throw their unwanted fast food wrappers and drinks cans from their car windows. England's roads are now long litter dumps and it is so sad. I would like to mention too my dear friend Jim Travis for all his hard work particularly with the Church and send special love to him and his wife Dorothy.

On a personal note I would like to thank Elizabeth and Anthony who are such good neighbours to my Mum and Dad who live on Cone Lane.

**Best wishes to you all**

*Diane x*

## Do you have a little time on your hands?

### We could use some help!

The UZ Group has been meeting for an hour on Friday evenings from 6.30pm during term time at All Saints Silkstone for several years. It's for children aged 7 upwards and we offer craft activities, table tennis, games and occasional bowling trips. Between 15 and 20 children attend on average each week and have great fun.

The UZ Group is run by a small and dedicated group of adult volunteers, all of whom have been DBS (formerly CRB) checked. Unfortunately, because of depleted volunteer numbers, we have had to cancel occasional sessions and it would be helpful to have a few more volunteers to help share the load.

### We need volunteers for two areas of activity:

A) We need a volunteer to oversee the administration – this involves updating information on the UZ Facebook page, contacting members with information from time to time, producing a programme and rota on a termly basis and other occasional administrative duties.

B) We are also seeking volunteers to assist with running the sessions – no experience is required, just an enthusiastic and friendly personality, willing to get involved with the activities. The more volunteers we have, the lighter the commitment for everyone!

If you would like to volunteer, or want to know more, please ring Rev. Maureen on 01226 492294 or email her at [maureenbrowell@talktalk.net](mailto:maureenbrowell@talktalk.net).

Without more volunteers, there is a concern that the UZ Group may have to close;

**Please consider helping us to keep this valued activity going.**

*Maureen Browell*

## Silkstone Parish Council Grants 2014/2015

During the 2014/2015 financial year, Silkstone Parish Council has awarded grants to the following local organisations:

**Uz Youth group** Towards cost of musical instruments and CD player

**Silkstone Common Ladies Choir** Music for Christmas 14 concert

**Silkstone Luncheon Club** Towards cost of Dial a Ride transport

**Silkstone Common Good Companions** Coach travel for Windermere trip

**Penistone Paramount** Towards re-decoration costs

**Silkstone in Bloom** Summer bedding plants for both villages

**Emma Prince from Silkstone Common** Towards transport and accommodation costs with National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain

**Old Silkstone Band** Coach travel to band contest

**Silkstone CARE group** Insurance costs for volunteers

Colin Thompson of the Silkstone Luncheon Club says "We are grateful to the Parish Council for their continued financial support. Our membership continues to flourish. We still use and depend on Dial-a-ride to get members to our luncheons. We have 40 members and consistently have attendance in the mid thirties"

Gill Jackson new secretary of Silkstone Common Good Companions said "Our members had a lovely day out at Bowness in the Lake District. The grant from the Parish Council paid for our coach for the day. The weather stayed on our side. Some of our members took advantage of a boat trip on Windermere which was magnificent. Our thanks to Silkstone Parish Council. "

## Local 16 yr old is national musician

Sixteen year old Emma Prince from Silkstone Common is to play in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain (NYOGB). After travelling to London in October to audition for the NYOGB Emma was selected to play in the orchestra for the 2015 season. Competition was very fierce to gain a place in the orchestra with 750 musicians applying and Emma was thrilled to have been successful. Emma has already performed with the orchestra in January this year at Leeds Town Hall and The Barbican Centre and will be touring with them again in April at The Sage, Gateshead, The Stoke on Trent Festival and The Royal Festival Hall, London.

Emma began playing the double bass at Silkstone Common J & I School when she was 7 years old in the Silkstone Common School String Orchestra and by the age of 10 was playing for the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain (NCOGB). In the time she was with the NCO she played numerous concerts around the UK, the most memorable being in 2012 for the Queen and 700 guests in Westminster Hall as part of the Jubilee Celebration weekend in London.

From then on Emma has continued to progress with her musical career and at the age of 14 successfully auditioned for a place at the world renowned Chetham's School of Music. Since joining Chetham's Emma has worked with many well known musicians and currently sits as Principal Bassist with the Chetham's Symphony Orchestra (CSO). Whilst studying for her GCSE's and currently her A-Levels Emma continues to tour the country as part of the CSO.

On top of the busy CSO schedule Emma also took up the position of Guest Bassist with the Hallé Youth Orchestra and has toured with them for the last two summers. Last year she got to visit Germany as part of the Hallé Youth Ensemble's European Tour.

Emma is also a keen Jazz player and is a member of the Chetham's Big Band who perform in Jazz Clubs in and around Manchester. She also spends a lot of time taking part in outreach projects in schools around the North West. In addition, she has just returned from Jersey where she spent a week touring schools, talking about music, her experiences and what it's like to be a musician and study for your exams at the same time as well as performing with the Jersey Youth Chamber Orchestra.

## Local people are getting involved

As you will know Silkstone CARE Group has put in a great deal of work over the couple of years to improve the Chestnuts site in Silkstone. First the area near the main gate was cleared and levelled then Coca-Cola gifted a number of large trees and the UZ Youth Club planted 50 small saplings provided by the Trust for Conservation Volunteers. When I went to check the area recently, I was surprised to find that a further area above the gate had been thinned out and weeds removed plus a large number of bulbs had been planted. It seems that local residents of the adjacent bungalows are so pleased with the changes that some of them got together and continued the work. Well done and thanks for your efforts.

CARE is still waiting for members Access Permits from Northern Rail so that more work and then re-planting can be done at the railway station in Silkstone Common.

Care would also like to thank Horsfields Nursery for their donation of 5 shrubs. Which were planted in February.

**Graham Wells: Chair Silkstone CARE**

## Our Hogwatch Update

Our Hogwatch, the local survey of hedgehogs organised by Penistone Friends of the Earth and Barnsley Biodiversity Trust, still needs to recruit more Hogwatchers to spot the creatures as they emerge from hibernation this spring and through until the end of the year.

Hogwatchers are asked to register on-line at [www.ourhogwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourhogwatch.org.uk)

They are asked to report any sightings of hedgehogs alive or dead and provide details of where they were spotted and whether they were adults or youngsters. Reporting can be done on-line and also using report cards which can be handed in at local libraries.

Our Hogwatch has also purchased a set of survey tunnels which can be set up in open country Hedgehogs enticed by a

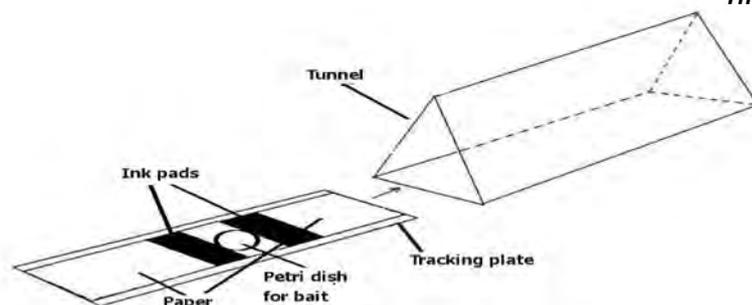
plate of food leave inky footprints on white paper. The project is looking for landowner willing to allow their land to be surveyed over five nights – the method has a 95% chance of detecting hedgehogs if they are present.

The tunnels will also be available to schools and householders to use. Please contact Pete Riley on 07903 341065 if you are interested in taking part in the tunnel

survey or want further information on the project.

An important part of the survey will be information from Hogwatchers who have not seen any hedgehogs by the end of 2015 when the first phase of the project ends. The groups want to find 200 Hogwatchers in the area of Barnsley west of the M1 motorway so please ask family, friends and colleagues to sign up.

**THANKS  
The Hogwatch Team**



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Contact Yvonne 07769323688



**Barkers The Butchers**  
**Barnsley Meat & Fish Market**  
**Barkers Units 9 & 10**  
**&The Fat Pig Unit 1**  
**Tel. 01226 243898**

**Barkers is a family run business** and has been an established part of the Meat and Fish Market in Barnsley for the past 21 years. We have a reputation for quality which is second to none!

We sell an extensive range of high quality, locally produced, beef, lamb, pork and poultry. All our meat is prepared from carcass within the Market and the beef is matured for 21 days.

We offer a delivery service to Silkstone, Silkstone Common, Hoylandswaine and Cawthorne, Monday – Friday. Delivery is free on orders over £20

## The Station Inn

**Open all day Monday to Saturday**

**Sunday 12-3 7-11:00**

Meals served 12 noon to 2 pm

Traditional lunch on Sundays  
(booking advisable)

Private parties catered for  
Buffets and hot meals

Mark and Julie invite you to enjoy  
good food & drink in your  
comfortable local

**Tel 01226 790248**



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18 Barugh Green Road, Barugh Green, Barnsley. S75 1JT



## SILKSTONE PHARMACY

3 High Street, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4JH  
(Just opposite the church)

**Opening times**  
Mon- Fri- 8.30 am to \*5.30 pm, Open until 6.00pm Tuesdays

**FREE PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE**

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**We work with your doctors to provide the best possible health care.**  
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## Celebrity Interview David O' Connor

My final interview as the Editor of your parish newsletter is with David O' Connor who has been involved with Old Silkstone Band all his life. He is currently the Librarian of the band and was until last year the Chairman. David is passionate about the heritage of the brass band playing tradition in Silkstone and hopes that it will continue long into the future.

David's family has lived in Silkstone for many generations, his Mum's family were from Silkstone and his Dad's from Dodworth, and he was born in Pindar Oaks Hospital Barnsley. His first home was in Snow Hill Dodworth which was demolished some years ago. His next home aged three was surprisingly at the other side of the world in Akron, Ohio in the United States of America. His Dad who was a miner had heard that you could have a better life over there and decided that the family should emigrate. They travelled in style on the Queen Mary, David can't remember any of this but he has since visited the liner which is now a hotel in Long Beach California. Life in America was not for the O' Connors so they came back home and moved in with David's grandparents, the Garnett's who lived in Highfield cottages Silkstone. David is glad that they did for many reasons including the fact that as an American teenager he would have been the right age to be called up to the Vietnam War. A life experience he is very pleased to have missed!

David first went to school in the little Infant School which is now the hairdressers on the High Street in Silkstone, he then went to junior school which is now Silkstone Common Primary School and then on to the secondary modern which is where Silkstone Primary School now is. In 1968 it closed as a secondary school and all children were transferred to Penistone Grammar. In 1969 he left school and did a year at Stocksbridge College cramming in studies to achieve the O' level grades he needed for an apprenticeship in engineering. In 1970 he was apprenticed to David Browns Pump Division in Penistone

where he worked for 32 years and lived in Houston, U.S.A for a year within this time. He was headhunted by a rival firm Sulzer Pumps in Leeds and worked for them for a year returning to David Browns to work for a further four years. He was headhunted again and worked until his recent retirement for a firm called Flowserve. He still works for them occasionally as an educational consultant giving seminars to engineering students. Whilst working for Flowserve David went to Dubai to work. His wife Linda had taken early retirement from her job as Community Midwife and so was able to join him. This was a very enjoyable experience and Dubai at this time was just one big building site rising from the desert. They have returned a few times for holidays and look back to those days with great fondness. Aged sixty David decided to retire; he had travelled the world and had a brilliant career but decided it was time for a more leisurely life with his Linda. They are enjoying their retirement and have bought a caravan in Filey and had some fabulous holidays with more planned.

David and Linda first met at Penistone Grammar but their first date was arranged in 1970 when they saw each other at the Sunday night disco at the Sovereign Pub. Their first date was arranged for the following Saturday evening, David was playing football for the under 18's Penistone Church Football Club at Stocksbridge that day where coincidentally Linda helped out every Saturday serving the teas at the match. I can imagine that there were knowing winks and smiles exchanged between the young couple knowing that hours later they would be meeting! Unfortunately David did not turn up that evening for the date. In the last seconds of the match he broke his leg owing to a collision with the opposing team's goalkeeper. He did manage to score a goal though, this incident was a headline in the paper, "Disaster 30 seconds from the end of the game"! Luckily friends managed to let Linda know that David would not be coming and she visited him the next day at home and love blossomed. They were married at Penistone Church on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 1974. The wedding plans



were a bit back to front in that they bought a house on Green Road Penistone in 1973 and they had also booked a holiday in Benidorm in September for the following year. They thought about this and decided that they might as well get married and the planned holiday became their honeymoon! David and Linda celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary last year and have lived for many years in Hallroyd Walk and have two sons Dale and Carl and a grandson Jensen aged 9.

David inherited his love of brass bands from his Dad, Stanley who was the Conductor at one time of both Dodworth Miner's Welfare and Old Silkstone Bands. David played his first cornet solo aged nine at the Silkstone Primary School Christmas Nativity playing "Once in Royal David's City". In common with his Dad he played in both bands but lost interest aged about 14 owing to his passion for football and cricket. In 1981 his Dad asked him to return and help with the percussion section of Old Silkstone Brass Band which he willingly did. In his first concert with Old Silkstone Band they came second in the CISWO (Coal Industry Social Welfare) Regional Finals held at the City Hall in Sheffield. This was the start of a wonderfully rewarding time for Old Silkstone Band; they gradually rose through the ranks gaining promotion in 2006 to the Champion Section playing alongside the world famous bands such as Brighouse and Rastrick, Black Dyke Mills and Grimethorpe Colliery. Our little village band was at this time one of the best competing at the equivalent of the Premier League of Football. Sadly the band's success has gone into decline and it is now competing in the second section. However there is currently a recruitment drive for both young and old so if you would like to get involved please

contact David. There is an advert in this edition of the newsletter which includes the necessary contact details. Once a year there is a very important contest The Regional Championships held in Bradford City Hall which determines the status of individual brass bands. David is hoping that they can get out of the second division and gain promotion back into the first. The date of the contest is the 8<sup>th</sup> of March so by the time you receive your copy of the newsletter the concert will have happened. Fingers crossed for a good result!

Old Silkstone Band has a new Musical Director with an excellent musical pedigree, Sam Fisher who is a music teacher and has played with the best bands in Yorkshire. It is hoped that Sam will lead them to greater success.

The band holds themed concerts which are great fun and I recommended you go and see them and join in. The next themed event is "Silkstone Does Strictly" which will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2015 at the Fairway. The Strictly Show Band will perform your favourite music from Strictly whilst dancers dazzle and delight with their twists, turns and pirouettes. It will be just like the show and you can vote for your favourite couple and even join in with the dancing. It will be a fabulous night so put this date in your diary!

I would like to thank David for his time and would like to wish him and his family all the best for the future and let us hope that Old Silkstone Brass Band enjoys a revival and remains a local treasure for generations to come.

*Diane Brown*

## Worried/Depressed?

You are not alone! Last year 502 people in Yorkshire committed suicide, 407 of them were men!

The Samaritans give people time and space to listen to your worries. Never judging always confidential, they listen to people in need anytime of day or night.

Tel: 08457 90 90 90 or 01226 202222

Email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

Text: 07725 90 90 90

## Silkstone Common Good Companions

April 8<sup>th</sup> : The Maria Penrose School of Dancing come to entertain us.

April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Tony and Heather will entertain us with songs we know.

May 6<sup>th</sup>: Bring and Buy Sale. Please come and help your club to raise funds.

May 20<sup>th</sup>: Quiz Afternoon followed by a Committee Meeting.

June 3<sup>rd</sup>: Lunch at the Station Inn—to be arranged.

June 17<sup>th</sup>: Annual Outing—Venue to be arranged.

July 1<sup>st</sup>: Strawberry Fayre.

July 15<sup>th</sup>: Beetle Drive

July 29<sup>th</sup>: Ham Salad Tea.

*Gillian Jackson*

### 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 and entertainments. Helpers welcome.

Annual subscription £10

plus 50p for refreshments.

Contact: Mrs Brayshaw 790196 or Gillian Jackson 07900-922929

## TPT Silkstone

We have continued to work one full day and one half day a month since the last newsletter and hope you have noticed a few improvements. There is now a lot less mud and in one particularly bad place we have a new surface!

By the time you get this newsletter we should have made some major improvements to the stretch between the Gilroyd access point and M1.

Our full days are supported by the BMBC Ranger team and Volunteer Action Barnsley, they provide people, tools etc as well as tea, coffee and cakes! On our half days we use tools borrowed from CARE and have tea, coffee and biscuits.

On our last half day we went back to the stone seat as event though we shifted lots of mud there last year, there is still more. Below you can see a before and after photo from the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.

If you would like to get involved and help out even for just a couple of hours you can find details on our group spaces site <http://groupspaces.com/TPTSilkstone>. Feel free to join our mailing list via the site or email Linda on [lmxx.13@gmail.com](mailto:lmxx.13@gmail.com)

*Linda*

PS If you are in a local organization and need to borrow tools phone Graham, the CARE Chairman his contact details are on the back page.



**The base of the stone seat is clear again and a big section is now down to hard surface, with a very thin layer of mud!.**

## Christmas Cheer at Silkstone's Noel Fest

The "Very Merry Christmas Band" (aka Old Silkstone Band) entertained a packed out room at The Fairway, Dodworth in December. Santa's elves gathered together to put on a lively and fun evening for everyone who came. The evening was hosted by chief Elf 'Wonorse Openslay' and the band was led by guest conductor Sam Fisher. The night featured several members from the band including a trombone playing turkey, with a Christmas tree on his head. The Musical Theatre Singers were also on hand to perform some Christmas classics with the band – including a rendition of Fairytale of New York, featuring the evening's host Elf.



The band entertained with their high quality playing of the music, while the audience enjoyed themselves with games including: a giant pass the parcel (complete with treats and forfeits), a dance off (against a minion dressed as Santa) and building a snowman, as well as the usual participation of singing the audience were encouraged just to get up and enjoy themselves.



*David O'Connor*

## Upcoming Concert

### Silkstone Does Strictly Friday 12th June The Fairway Dodworth

The successful ballroom dancing reality show come to Silkstone this summer so why not come and join us for a sparkly, sequined evening of waltzes, sambas, tangos and fox trots!! The Strictly Silkstone Band will perform your favourite music from the show whilst our dancers dazzle and delight you with their twists, turns, and pirouettes. Just like in the show you can vote for your favourite couple and theirs even a chance to learn a dance step or two !! So who will be crowned The Old Silkstone Strictly Champions? Come along to the Fairway Dodworth on Friday the 12th June and join us for our very own Battle of the Ballroom..... keeeep dancing !!



## Silkstone/st. Florent Twinning Association

A visit to our twin village, St. Florent des Bois, in the Vendée, is currently being organised and will take place between Saturday 11 July and Wednesday 15 July 2015. The French are arranging a full programme of activities over the four day visit including attending the Puy de Fou spectacular (around 3,000 actors take part in this son et lumière pageant), and visits to La Rochelle and La Venise Verte, culminating in Bastille Day festivities, including a firework display in La Roche sur Yon.

Accommodation is with families, but visitors are expected to pay for any meals outside the home and the costs incurred in the visits and activities.

If you are interested in joining this visit and would like more information, please ring Yvonne Dinsdale on 01226 790583.

*Yvonne Dinsdale*

## Health and wellbeing

For those who struggle to take exercise alone such as walking, running or cycling there are health/wellbeing classes in the local community that offer both physical and social benefits.

**Pilates** is an exercise system that focuses on stretching and strengthening the whole body to improve balance, muscle-strength, flexibility and posture.

**Healthy Bones** is an approach that uses gentle exercises to improve bone strength and balance.

Both are available in Silkstone Common.

### Pilates at Silkstone Common Methodist Chapel

Contact: Sandra Goddard 07962716218  
Tuesdays 11 -12  
Thursdays 12.30 – 1.30  
Fridays 1.15 – 2-15

### Healthy Bones at Silkstone Common School

Exercise to music to improve bone strength and balance.  
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Contact Bronia: 07895 380615



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## All Saints Silkstone

### The 2015 Spring Fair at All Saints Silkstone

This year's event will take place in church on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May at 11.30am. Our aim is for a craft based event with a number of local groups there, our own stalls, children's activities and other interesting attractions.

One of the interesting events will be a duck race on the river, plastic ducks of course! The ducks will be sold in church and the race will take place on the river, finishing by the Potting Shed, it should be a lot of fun.

We already have people interested in having a craft stall but if anyone is aware of others who may be interested or could suggest names please let Rev Maureen or Mary Tooke know as soon as possible.

### Events at All Saints Church: March to July 2014

15 March 9.15am Silkstone Church Family service for Mothering Sunday

26 April 11.45am Silkstone Church Annual Parish Meeting

9 May 11.30am Silkstone Church Spring Fair

13 June 2.00pm Silkstone Vicarage Church Garden Party

3 – 7 July 6.30pm Silkstone Church Flower Festival

### All Saints Church – Change of Service times

We have again recently made some small changes to the times of our regular services at All Saints Silkstone.

The new timetable of regular services is:

Thursdays Said Communion at Silkstone Common Methodist Church at 9.00am

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month – Sung Eucharist at 9.15 am

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month – Sung Evensong at 6.30pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month – Messy Church at 4.00pm

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month – All age family Eucharist service at 11.00am

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month – Benefice Sung Eucharist at 10.30am to alternate between Silkstone and Hoylandswaine churches.

Why not join us at some of these events. All are welcome.

### Christian Aid

Christian Aid Week, 10th-17th May. there will be the usual house to house collection in both villages.

*Claud Bills*

## Silkstone In Bloom

"In Bloom" activities will be starting up again from the end of March until late Autumn. The group works in Silkstone and in Silkstone Common to maintain and improve flowerbeds. They meet for a couple of hours at a time usually on Wednesday and Fridays, depending on who is available when.

Contact Janet in Silkstone Common on 01226 790994 or Julia in Silkstone on 07565122863.

You can also ask to be put on the CARE emailing list which is also used to send out emails to people interested in helping Silkstone In Bloom. Email James on [jd@jdblackhorse.me.uk](mailto:jd@jdblackhorse.me.uk) and let him know if you want to be on both the CARE

and Silkstone in Bloom list or just one of them.

You can take your own tools and gloves but they can provide tools and gloves if you need them.

*Janet and Julia*



## Overgrown hedges

Have you checked your boundary hedge lately? It's surprising how quick vegetation grows without you noticing it and if you drive away from your property you may never actually walk on the footway in front of your boundary to notice.

Overgrown hedges cause a nuisance to pedestrians walking on the footpaths and may force them to walk into the road or snag their clothes on the vegetation. This is a particular hazard to the visually impaired who may use guide dogs or white sticks as neither detect vegetation which is not at ground level.

Barnsley Council, as the local Highway Authority receives numerous requests throughout the year regarding overgrown hedges and trees.

If the vegetation is deemed to be an obstruction to the safe use of the highway, then the owners are requested to cut back the offending vegetation.

Ultimately if the obstruction is not removed the council can undertake the works and recharge the costs to the owner. This is a practice which the council tries to avoid and urges the co-operation of the land owner.

The Parish of Silkstone is a beautiful part of Barnsley and therefore it would be appreciated if all landowners could check their boundary vegetation once in a while to ensure that the residents and visitors to the Parish enjoy a safe passage on the roads and footpaths.

If you wish to report highways which are overgrown, either by private or council vegetation please contact the council on 773555 or email [roads@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:roads@barnsley.gov.uk)

*Andrea Jackson*

**Two hikers enjoying the seat and flowers maintained by CARE and SPIB.**

**Your help maintaining this and other features in either or both villages will be welcomed !**

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## Chairman's letter

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

As you'll see on the front page, the Vice-Chair of the Parish Council, Peter Handley, passed away suddenly with great shock to all. Peter has been a fabulous Councillor and has served the Parish Council for over 10 years. On a personal note, he has taught me a great deal about the workings of both Parish and Local Council in his well-spoken and knowledgeable fashion. Peter, you will be sadly missed.

Someone else who will be missed, but under different circumstances, is Diane, our retiring Editor. Diane has been our Newsletter Editor for over five years and her personal and friendly style has been well liked by the Parish. Thank you on behalf of the Parish Council Diane, and personal thanks from me. If you're interested in being the Editor please contact the Parish Clerk.

This year is a big year for the Parish Council. Within the newsletter are details about the upcoming elections. Not only are there going to be General and Local elections but this year there is also a Parish Council election. If you fancy helping shape how the Parish is run please contact the Parish Clerk or give me a ring on 791679 if you need a chat on what being a Councillor entails.

Someone who has taken up the challenge is our newly co-opted Parish Councillor, Steve Fletcher. Steve lives in Silkstone village and also manages one of our junior football teams. Welcome on board Steve.

Many of you will have noticed the construction is now underway on the new Community Centre. The latest hurdle we have had to cross has been a by-product of our industrial past. Holes caused by old mine workings have meant a change in foundation design but compared to previous problems this one has been easily solved. Roll on the summer and the official opening.

With snow falling today but 15c forecast for the weekend I think the winter is virtually over. It is nearly light when I take my dog for a walk at 6.00am with Blackbirds singing beautifully, daffodils are starting to bloom and I think we all start to feel better when we see the sun shine.

The next time I write my Chair's letter, if I am fortunate enough to be re-elected, we'll be into mid-Summer. I don't want to wish my life away but I can't wait.

Have a lovely Easter,

*Richard Leech*

## Police Update

South Yorkshire Police will be introducing a new local policing model from Spring 2015 in which communities will continue to have highly visible, dedicated police officers supported by locally based PCSOs.

As you are aware, uniformed policing is currently delivered across two functions;

- Response policing, providing 24-hour cover
- Safer Neighbourhood police officers and PCSOs who focus on longer term issues

The Force is combining these two functions into multi-skilled local policing teams (LPTs) with responsibility to solve community problems and manage local demand. Barnsley will have two LPTs, which will be based in Barnsley town centre, at Churchfield, and at Wombwell.

This means that from Summer 2015 when Barnsley undergoes the restructure, most of the staff who are currently based in outlying section stations will start their shifts at the new LPT bases where they will be briefed together, saving duplication, then deployed straight out into the community.

Officers will be provided with mobile computers that will enable them to work in the communities they serve for longer, irrespective of where they are based, thereby increasing their visibility to members of the public. The new devices are due to be introduced in Barnsley early in the New Year, which is months

before the new local policing model is introduced. This will mean that officers will spend the vast majority of their working day out in the communities that they currently serve, it is merely starting and finishing times that they will be at one of the two LPT hubs.

The finer details are still being worked through, however each geographical area, will have a named officer on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across each of the new LPTs. The current Safer Neighbourhood officers will form part of the LPT and it is recognised that these members of staff have built up excellent relationships in their communities and this knowledge and experience will be harnessed when allocating named officers in each area.

PCSO's will continue to be based and work from the same geographic locations as they do now.

South Yorkshire Police has to save in the region of £45m over the next five years to meet the requirements of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. This means there will be significant changes to how the Force operates but the new local policing model demonstrates that savings can be achieved while continuing to provide a dedicated service for local communities.

Further information will be provided to the public in due course when more detailed plans are known.

**PC 1456 Matthew Jackson**  
**Penistone Safer Neighbourhood Team**  
**Penistone Police Station**  
**Tel: 01226 736523 ext: 736523**  
[www.southyorkshire.police.uk](http://www.southyorkshire.police.uk)

## Brownies

It is the Brownies centenary and on Feb 24<sup>th</sup> more than 200 Brownies from Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley descended on Meadowhall to take part in a 100th birthday conga. There will be other challenges through the year.

### 63<sup>rd</sup> Barnsley (Silkstone) Brownies

Tracey Hinchliffe Tel 01226 790055,  
 Mobile 07546320031  
 Email [t.hinchliffe@googlemail.com](mailto:t.hinchliffe@googlemail.com)

## My Day at the Palace

On Thursday 12th February, Mr Tabber, our head teacher, interrupted my literacy lesson to tell me that he had forgotten to let me know that there was an assembly, so I quickly lined up my class and off we trundled down into the hall. When I walked in, all the staff and school were waiting for me, to give me a lovely 'send off' to Buckingham Palace. Clips from the orchestra were shown on the huge IWB (Interactive Whiteboard), including their appearance at the Royal Albert Hall and on Look North. The school also watched my Classic FM interview from a couple of years ago when I was awarded 'Best primary school teacher of the year'. I was then moved to tears when presented with a beautiful flower arrangement and manuscript book that was full of messages written by every child and adult in the school. It was such a thoughtful gift, so with tears in my eyes, I left school and rushed home to gather my belongings to board the 2pm train to London. Once on board, I relaxed for the first time for weeks and tried to take in where I was going and why! At 5.15pm I arrived in London and made my way to the travel lodge where I met up with my mum and sister who had travelled from Worcester and Manchester. After a lovely evening spent with my family and 2 old school friends, it was bed by just gone midnight, ready for the day ahead!

Having had no sleep that night, because of the noise of trains coming in and out of the station, as well as my excitement and nerves, I was up and showered by 6.00am. Then came the huge task.....to make myself look elegant/smart/or 'nancy' as I call it! A task that is easier said than done, when I prefer to live in my hoody and jeans!

At 9.45am we stepped through the main gates of Buckingham Palace, having showed our tickets and I.D. to the police. Here we waited with some other recipients and guests until we were directed through the main archway into the quadrangle. With more snaps taken, and one of my daughters joining us, we were then escorted into the palace. Some grand stairs met us. Having walked

up these, we were shown through a corridor to the cloakrooms. Here I was given a very smart gold plastic carrier bag that said 'Buckingham Palace' on it. In it I had to put my phone and camera, as these were not allowed to be used inside the building. After going to the mini-throne like toilets, my guests and I were then split up.....I had to go into a huge room where the other recipients were and my family were shown into the ballroom where the investiture was to take place. As I walked into the room with the waiting recipients, I felt very awkward and nervous, as I'm quite shy and also I felt like a fraud, believing that all the other recipients were much more important than me. Thankfully it wasn't too long before a couple started chatting to me, and then with the ice broken, I was able to talk with quite a few of the recipients, including Martin Lewis, the money man off the TV and internet. We spent a long time in this room, with some of us spending longer than others, as my surname begins with 'S' and the awards were presented in alphabetical order. Eventually my name was called and it was my turn to follow a man down a long corridor, through the back of the ballroom, down another long corridor, to wait for my turn to meet her Royal Highness Princess Anne. I thought that I would be extremely nervous, but I was as relaxed as if I was with my class or orchestra at school. Only the shoes were bothering me, as my toes by this point were screaming out for their comfy boots! Before I knew it, I was being directed to the front of the ballroom where I was to receive my MBE and talk to her Royal Highness. Having managed the curtsy without falling over and taken 5 steps forward, I found myself in front of Princess Anne, who pinned my MBE to my jacket. As she did this, she stated, *'You've done something really rather special!'*, to which I replied, *'Have I?'* I can't really remember then what was said exactly, except I felt that she really knew who I was, what I did and why I did it! We chatted about school and the wonderful children that I teach, as well as Silkstone Common and Barnsley. I really felt that Princess Anne was interested in our village and school and that she

understood what music can bring to all. I loved every 90 seconds of our conversation and could have chatted for longer, but it was soon time for the next recipient, so, with 5 steps backwards and another curtsy, I left the room to go down the corridor and then back in through the back of the ballroom again to join my family. A live string orchestra was playing in the balcony above us which I could now see, and so having had the lovely chat with her Royal Highness and with my family now next to me, with beautiful string music being played, I couldn't have asked for a better scenario. It was just wonderful!

Before I knew it, two and a half hours had flown, and it was time to leave. With posh carrier bag in tow, it was outside to have a professional photograph taken and then back to the travel lodge. Here I became Kathryn again and changed into my hoody and jeans! After saying goodbye to my family, I had a 2 hour wait for the train home. After the most magnificent day and one that I will treasure forever, I was finally home at about 9pm. It was simply one of the best experiences of my life and I thank my wonderful musicians, who I have taught in the past and those who I continue to teach, for enabling me to continue doing what I love doing.....sharing the power of music. I just love my job, and would do no other, even if you paid me a million pounds! Give me a bunch of kids and a pile of stringed instruments and I'm made! And it is for this reason I feel a fraud when it comes to the MBE, because I'm merely doing something I love to do!

**Kathryn Smith**



## Silkstone at War Part 4 - Early 1915

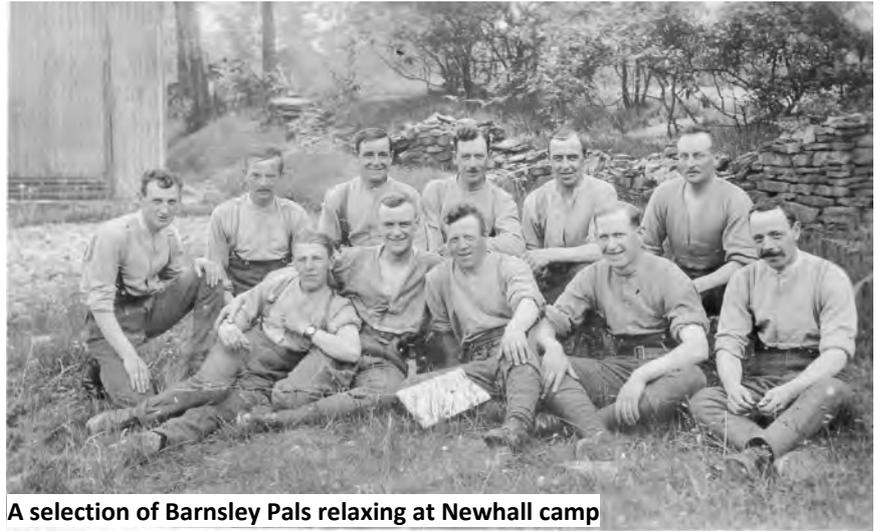
### The Barnsley Pals at Newhall Camp

In the last edition of the newsletter, we left the Barnsley Pals settling into their new surroundings at Newhall Camp on the edge of Silkstone Village having taken up residence on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1914. They would spend the next 5 months there training to be soldiers and preparing for War.

The War in France was beginning to turn into a stalemate as both the Germans and the Allies established trenches along what was to become known as The Western Front. This stretched for several hundred miles for the full length of the country and for 3 long years each side would launch offensives against the other in an attempt gain precious ground. There would be attempts to break the deadlock with major battle offensives launched by both sides, but in general the siege warfare which developed created conditions never witnessed before.

Instead of expecting to achieve objectives at a considerable distance from the start of an offensive, the type of trench warfare fighting created a situation where attacks were carried out in phases with short distance objectives and usually following a bombardment of enemy trench lines beforehand. This strategy led to prolonged periods of fighting with success counted in gains hundreds of yards rather than miles. The human cost of casualties and dead in such a grinding type of siege warfare would be recorded in the thousands in the space of a single day. Over a period of these three years both sides suffered heavy losses in human casualties and animals, expenditure in ammunition and equipment. In spite of this the Front Lines stretching from the Swiss border to the Belgian coast remained more or less in the same location with little ground gained by either side. This type of warfare is what the soldiers at Silkstone were being trained for.

There are a few instances where the reporters from the Barnsley Chronicle were allowed access to the camp and the



**A selection of Barnsley Pals relaxing at Newhall camp**

articles written always painted a rosy picture for its' readers.

The Barnsley Chronicle gave an insight into the soldiers' daily routine at Silkstone Camp on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1915 which would begin at 6 am with Reveille, followed by a mug of coffee and biscuits. The early morning parade was followed by physical drill under Sergt Hayton, an instructor sent from Aldershot by the War Office. This early morning session sometimes included a cross country run along the muddy tracks of Fall Wood surrounding the camp. The men would then return for breakfast at 8 am. The next parade would be at 9.30 am for company training under the Company Officers, the Colonel usually directing operations.

This took the form of instruction in the organisation of battle formations in attack and defence. These mock battles usually consisted of an attack by individual companies against some pre - arranged objective. Although planned with the best of intentions by Col Hewitt and his company commanders, the training on even ground with few obstacles barring their way would prove to be of little benefit to them when faced with the siege warfare conditions of the Western Front. Besides the mock battles, other training would include the sighting and digging of trenches, range - taking, fire direction and control, wire entanglements, wood and village

fighting, method of taking over from aircraft etc. The men, now that their preliminary training is well in hand, are heavily interested in these more advanced stages of their training and all day operations are now frequent.

The Chronicle also reported that "all the unfit men are being wiped out of the Battalion and there remains about 30 vacancies for strictly eligible recruits". The reporter witnessed an energetic game of football being played by men who had just completed a 20 mile route march.

After company training dinner would be at 1 pm, followed by an afternoon parade from 2.30 to 5 pm. The evenings would be mostly taken up with lectures on such subjects as German, French, map reading, the study of military history, and military training of the various countries engaged in the War. The Regimental Institute was used for lectures. The structure was 190 ft long x 25 ft wide and was partitioned off to be used for a number of recreational pursuits.

The social side of the men's life was catered for as best possible. A sports committee had been formed. Musical evenings were arranged and "smokers" were held once or twice a week.

Long route marches were also a common part of training, with regular marches to the moors beyond Penistone and Ingbirchworth. These were often combined with trench digging on the

Barnsley Pals practising trench digging



moors. Four miniature rifle ranges were fixed in the local quarries, which were used on a daily basis. As the men became fitter it was not unknown for them to regularly march over 20 miles between breakfast and dinner.

During January 1915 a wooden bridge was constructed across a deep ravine in Silkstone Fall Wood which made access to and egress from the camp much easier, avoiding the sea of mud which up to then had to be negotiated. This bridge was constructed "on the most approved military principle."

A month later the men of The Royal Engineers D Company constructed a road leading from the main road near the bottom of the golf links, leading straight into the camp. This road into the camp site still exists as the vehicular entrance to Silverwood Scout Camp.

On 13<sup>th</sup> February, the Barnsley Chronicle reported "*generally speaking the health of the troops at Newhall is excellent and they continue to show marked signs of improvement in every respect. Lectures are given on several nights during the week in the Regimental Institute. On Wednesday the men marched 3 miles beyond Ingbirchworth to indulge in manoeuvres and returned by way of Denby, Oxspring and Dodworth. Musketry exercise shooting on the miniature range is being indulged in daily. The sentries have now been provided with ammunition.*"

By the end of February the organisation of the Battalion was fast approaching

completion, with four Companies formed and a fifth as a reserve. The machine gun section was nearing completion, together with a transport section, signallers, buglers, and stretcher bearers.

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 1915, the first men of the Barnsley Battalion left Newhall Camp to travel to Chatham. These 50 or so had been chosen to do special work for the Royal Engineers at the front. They received an enthusiastic send off from Silkstone Common Railway Station accompanied by a brass band and a huge crowd of well wishes and colleagues. Described by the Chronicle as "strong muscular fellows, every one in the best of spirits", and "when they boarded the specially reserved GC coach the huge crowd which had assembled joined the colleagues of the departing soldiers with a hearty vigorous cheer".

It could be that these men were engaged in the Battle of Hill 60 in April 1915 where the British laid large mines underneath the enemy positions in order to blow him out of his defences.

Experienced coal miners were used to dig under the German lines to position the mines.

During March the Military Authorities began to tighten security at Newhall with no outsiders being allowed into the camp without the express permission of the Commanding Officer, Colonel Hewitt.

As the time for departure began to draw ever nearer, at the end of March 1915, a hundred or so of the men based at Newhall were entertained to a supper by Captain & Mrs Fullerton of Noblethorpe Hall. The supper, which was served from Noblethorpe by the household staff of servants, was held at the Infants School in the village. After feasting, the vicar of Silkstone proposed a toast of thanks to Mr and Mrs Fullerton and Mrs Fullerton gave a "charming little speech" in which she expressed the pleasure she had in entertaining the men and wished them a speedy and safe return.

During the last week in March, Sir Joseph Walton, MP for Barnsley, visited his constituency to see for himself how the Barnsley Pals were preparing for war. After seeing the men of the almost completed 2nd Barnsley Battalion in the town, he visited Silkstone to watch manoeuvres taking place in Noblethorpe Park. After witnessing the drilling of the men he addressed the men at one end of the Park. After the address the bugle band headed the Battalion as they marched back through the village to Newhall camp after one of the most successful drills they had had since they went into training. Sir Joseph later made his way to visit the camp at Newhall.

**Andrew Horsfield**



The Regimental Institute at Newhall Camp

## Contact details: Silkstone Parish Councillors

### Chairman of the Council

Richard Leech  
17 Towngate, Silkstone  
Tel: 791679 or rich@richardleech.co.uk

### Councillors

#### Bill Barkworth

9 The Meadows, Silkstone Common  
Tel : 790112 or e-mail billbarkworth@aol.com

#### Richard Brocklehurst

25 Lady Royd, Silkstone Common  
Tel: 794280 ore-mail brockandsykes@hotmail.co.uk

#### Meryl Liddell

15 Black Horse Drive, Silkstone Common  
Tel:790509 or e-mail meryl.liddell@btinternet.com

#### Derek Liddell

15 Black Horse Drive, Silkstone Common  
Tel:790509 or e-mail derek.liddell@btinternet.com

#### Patrick Smith

27 Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common  
Tel: 790596 or e-mail pat.s1@talktalk.net

#### Ron Stier

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

#### Steve Fletcher

Woodland View, 36 High Street, Silkstone 01226-791488  
stevefletcher.1971@gmail.com

### Parish Clerk

#### Mrs Karen Canadine

40 St Andrews Drive, Darton, S75 5LX  
Tel : 391343 or e-mail 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 11 people on the waiting list for a plot.

The Parish Council would be interested to hear from any land owners who may be able to offer land for allotments on a long term lease or transfer to the Parish Council. Contact 01226-391343 or e-mail silkstoneclerk@ymail.com

## Local Organisations Contacts

We had so many articles for this issue that we did not have room for the usual two pages of local organisations. Where details have changed since the last issue we have included the details with a relevant article.

The contact pages should be back next issue. In the meantime you can get a full list of organisations from the Parish Council website.

### 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.

### Parish Council, 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.

### Newsletter

The next Editor of the newsletter is Meryl Liddell. Contact Meryl for articles. Contact the clerk for adverts.

#### Deadline for articles

First week of March  
First week of June  
First week September  
First week November

#### Distribution dates

Last week of March  
Last week of June  
Last week of September  
First week of December.

### Parish Council Meetings for 2015

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

Date	Meeting
13-Apr-15	PC
20-Apr-15	Annual Parishioners' Meeting
11-May-15	Annual Council Meeting
01-Jun-15	PC
06-Jul-15	PC
07-Sep-15	PC
05-Oct-15	PC
02-Nov-15	PC
07-Dec-15	PC

The Statutory Annual Parishioners' Meeting (APM) was held in Silkstone in 2014 and so will be held in Silkstone Common at the Methodist Church in 2015.

## Free to good home

Silkstone Parish Council has 7 paper hand towel holders which can be donated free issue to any local groups. Contact 01226-391343 or e-mail [silkstoneclerk@ymail.com](mailto:silkstoneclerk@ymail.com)