



Silkstone Parish Newsletter Spring 2025 Issue 105



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Photo courtesy of Karen Atkinson

The Editor of this Newsletter is Sue Williams. Views expressed in in this Newsletter are those of the Contributors and not necessarily the views of the Parish Council.

Parish Clerk Tel : 07947545504 email: silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Web: www.silkstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

A word from the Chair

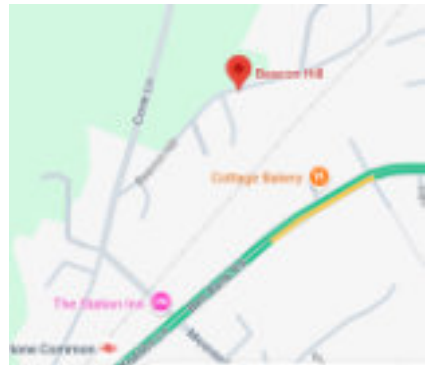
Welcome to the spring newsletter. Glad to see winter is finally behind us and the signs of spring showing. It always makes me feel better when I see the first snowdrops in the back garden.

We will be celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day by lighting a beacon Beacon Hill oE Cone Lane at about 9pm on 5th May. Please come along and join us for this significant event. We are also hoping to meet at the war memorial on the 8th of May to pay our respects and commemorate this historic day.

We need to address the ongoing issue of dog fouling in public places. Please be considerate: pick up after your dog and dispose of waste in a litter bin or at home.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter. Special thanks to Sue and Linda for their hard work as usual.

Meryl
Chair Silkstone Parish Council



Approx location of the beacon
. W3W laugh.allows.plantings

Silkstone ***Warm Welcome***

Warm welcome, warm drinks, warm friendship

March 4, 18
April 1, 15, 29
May 13, 27
June 10, 24
July 8, 22

Huskar Community Rooms - 10.00am -12.30pm

Join us for drinks, biscuits, and a chat. For more information contact:

Richard 07966 466507, Julia 07941 527250 or Alan 07870 191873

Editorial Spring 2025

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Silkstone Newsletter.

There are definitely some signs of Spring, bulbs sprouting and snowdrops appearing. The weather needs to be a bit more consistent – jumper on, jumper off! 12

It is lovely to see All Saints Church wall in one piece again, neat and tidy.

In this edition we have Andy's article about Silkstone Stocks (core blimey they were hard in those days!), MattB's the start of a new series about making or changing your garden, more information from Liz about the French Twinning's visit 2025, Mick's brain teaser, another wonderful walk around our villages 'Silkstone to Kine Moor', celebrating the Huskar Community Room's 10th Anniversary, the up to date CARE group's Biodiversity report, Andy's Man's Club history and information (which now has two groups that meet in Barnsley), and an appeal to all you knitters out there – can

you knit some poppies to decorate our villages for Remembrance Day 2025?

I am looking forward to the Tractor Run on Sunday 27th April 2025 at Yummy Yorkshire (Ice cream farm), all in aid of the Children's Air Ambulance service. A very worthy cause.

I am also looking forward to International Women's Day is on Saturday 8th March 2025. This day was officially adopted by the United Nations in 1975, the story of International Women's Day goes back further in history. In fact, Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900s – a time when women were starting to campaign for equal rights.

I must admit I am mainly looking forward to warmer weather, more sunshine, and not having to wear my Big Coat!

All the best

**Sue
Editor**



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Huskar Community Rooms – 10th Anniversary October 2025

In 2011 it was decided that the decrepit Scout and Guide hut had outlived its temporary status, lasting over 20 years. It was full of asbestos, one working toilet and was generally held together with duct tape!

A committee was formed to establish the needs of the community. Plans were drawn for a new centre that was fit for purpose, and which could be used by a variety of groups.



In October 2014 the old scout hut was demolished after the committee had raised sufficient funds through various activities and secured a government loan through the Parish Council for the balance. Work then began on a new building for the Parish of Silkstone, named Huskar Community Rooms.

A number of activities were held to raise funds, including an X Factor night, a donation envelope drop in both Silkstone and Silkstone Common. Also, during the construction some of villagers donated over 200 hours of voluntary time to paint the interior, with free paint, from Johnson Paint Centre, and

free equipment from KDA as we couldn't afford a professional decorator.



The building was opened in October 2015, with the ceremonial ribbon cut by Kate Rusby.

The building itself consists of two large rooms (a Dance & Fitness Studio and Activity Room), a large reception area, fully equipped kitchen, toilets (including disabled toilet) and baby changing facilities.



The Centre is host to a variety of classes and activities. The Maria Penrose Dance Studio operate from the Huskar Community Rooms Monday to Thursday and on Saturday, and the Main Activity Room is used in

the evening by Scouts (Monday), Cubs (Tuesday), Beavers (Wednesday) and Brownies (Thursday). During the day the Centre hosts activities for Toddlers (Mini Kicks, Baby Ballet, Robot Reg) and those not quite so young (Yoga, Pilates and Warm Welcome).

Yoga, Pilates or Exercise Class. While the general Activity Room could be used for a variety of art, craft or hobby based groups. This room can also be used for birthday parties and other celebrations.

For more information about the Huskar Community Rooms, and details on how to book the Centre, please visit our website. Scan the QR code below.



Huskar Rooms are managed by the Silkstone Community Centre - a not for profit charity. The charity is always on the lookout for individuals to volunteer their services.

Stephen Dolman

There are opportunities for other groups to hire the building. The Dance & Fitness Studio is available most mornings, should you wish to set up a

**#LITTER
HEROES**

Keep Britain Tidy

2025 Spring Clean - Litter Picking Sessions
Join us for our annual village(s) litter pick

Saturday 29 March - Silkstone - meet behind the Huskar rooms
Saturday 5 April - Silkstone Common - meet the Station Inn car park

Both sessions to commence at 2.00 p.m.
Please bring gloves, all other equipment will be provided

Silkstone Pre-school Nursery

We have current vacancies for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Funded places available

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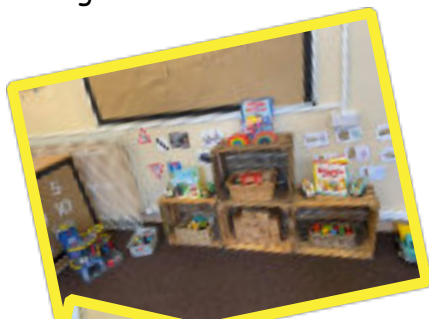
them through fun activities tailored to their individual needs and interests.

We offer a range of full and half day sessions. We have term time and year round options available.

Please get in touch with us via email at silkstonepreschoolpg@gmail.com or telephone on 01226 792294, if you would like further information or to arrange a visit.



Silkstone
Pre-School Playgroup Ltd



Addergram Puzzle Date : 13-Feb-25

Clues Answers



Fish eggs (3)

Start over and improve, like a renovation (4)

Arrange in sequence (5)

Uttered a full, deep, prolonged cry (6)

A person who receives accommodation and meals in exchange for payment (7)

Regarded with disgust and hatred (8)

Sheltered or hid (9)

How to play Addergrams ...

Each word is an anagram of the previous word plus one extra letter. Use the clues together with the letters from the previous and next answers to solve each word.

Fresh puzzles available every day at : addergrams.com

There is no software to download or install, you don't need an account, no adverts are shown and no personal data is collected or stored. Addergrams is a fun daily word puzzle created by a retired Silkstone resident.

Play Addergrams online and your result can be shared on social media if you wish.

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Feedback and comments to ...

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The Silkstone Village Stocks

The two large stones which form the stocks have stood in Silkstone for over 600 years. Two Acts were passed in 1351 and 1405 for every village to maintain a set of stocks. Located next to the village green on Stocks Hill, they were placed to be in full view of anyone passing so that the public humiliation and shame endured would deter others from committing similar crimes.

Victims could be kept in the stocks for up to 3 days mainly for petty crimes such as persistent swearing, foul language, drunkenness or brawling. During their time in the stocks, they would be open to ridicule as passers-by, who would spit on them, throw rotten vegetables or even empty their chamber pots on them amongst other humiliating acts.

The largest stone was known as the whipping stone where those convicted of more serious crimes would be tied and whipped until their backs drew blood. This was done in public, again to deter others, and was typically used on vagrants, vagabonds and beggars who refused to work and were seen as idle, lazy and a drain on society.

Written records were not kept, but stocks were used as punishment in Britain for over 400 years into the early 1800s. Their location in the centre of the village also meant that they were the focal point for fairs and gatherings. In 1901 a newspaper article noted that a huge bonfire continued to be lit there every 5th

November and had been for several generations.

Some stocks were recognised as being of historical importance, but those at Silkstone, although they remained in place, were not protected or preserved as this photograph from the 1940s shows.



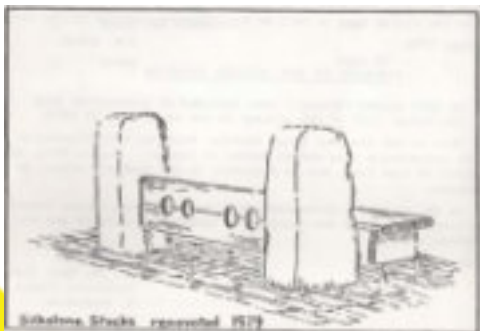
In 1953 the Parish Council considered renovating the stocks as a memorial to the Queen's Coronation. The scheme didn't go ahead due to costs being too high and the idea was shelved.

This photo taken in the early 1970s shows the stocks and the surrounding area.



In 1975 the idea of improving the stocks was resurrected but the Parish Council were split over the costs with one councillor arguing that *“they are not even recognisable as stocks. There is a sewage ventilation pipe standing between what is left of them. No-one knows if there is any history attached to them and people don’t care about them”*. Others argued that *“it is certainly not a waste of money improving part of our local history. I am sure much of the cost could be met by Government grants”*.

Consequently, Barnsley Council agreed to look at a scheme to bring the stocks back to their original state and improve the surrounding area and in June 1976 they announced a project to upgrade the stocks and uncover part of the old wagonway nearby. The illustration below was done in the late 1970s.



In 1987 the stocks were listed as a Grade II listed monument and in 2012 the area was improved further by members of the Roggins Local History Group.



If you are interested in a more detailed version about the Stocks, please email me on rogginshistorygroup@gmail.com

Andy Horsfield Roggins Local History /
Heritage Silkstone



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Silkstone CARE – Biodiversity Performance Report

Background: You may recall items, in previous issues of the Parish Magazine, regarding Biodiversity. The CARE group were pleased to develop an Action Plan which will form the backbone of our Planning and Voluntary work for the coming year. We thought that you would like an update:

Action	Progress to date	Next Steps
No mow May	Little mowing to date this year	There are differing schools of thought regarding NO Mow May. Leaving an area, only to be cut a month later, disturbs any insects etc that may have taken up home. Therefore, we will identify areas and develop these as specific Wilding Zones.
Bird Boxes	We have installed 10 new Bird Boxes ready for 2025 nesting season. All the boxes were kindly made and donated to us by Men In Sheds Penistone	We will plan for something similar at the end of 2025. 
Hedgehog Houses	Thank you to donations from Northern Rail and the Parish Council, we have sited 12 new Hedgehog Houses in secret locations across both villages	In spring 2025, when hedgehogs should be awakening from their hibernation, we will visit the boxes to assess our success
Bug habitats	Our Plan – there will be five formal Bug Houses and Informal log piles	The school report would say “ <i>more attention required</i> ”
Dead Hedges	We have re-constructed a couple of Dead Hedges in Orchard Wood. Plus created a new Dead Hedge near The Cross in Silkstone	To build more Dead Hedges, concentrating on Conroyd Wood

Action	Progress to date	Next Steps
Native Planting	The PC has ordered £750 worth of Wilding Bulbs/Plugs and Plants/Seeds, all native varieties.	All to be planted across both villages. 
Sustainable Planting	Good progress was made selecting alternative Perennial plants.	Our summer planting themes will concentrate on perennials rather than mass summer bedding, reducing waste. We will however still consider how we can have colour impact, particularly as you enter both villages.
Littering	Members of CARE and other residents regularly Litter Pick across both villages - THANK YOU	We will join the Great Britain Spring Clean 29/3/2025 in Silkstone and 05/04/2025 in Silkstone Common
Green Waste	We continue to dispose of our Green Waste sympathetically	This is an important issue for us, and we will not dispose of waste anywhere other than the identified areas.
Use of Herbicides	Limited specific areas have been identified (cobbled areas which are difficult to weed)	We will only use Weed Killer on the identified areas.

The Care Group, Silkstone Parish
March 2025



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Saturday evening 4:30pm - 8:30pm



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#ITSOKAYTALK

In mid-2016, nine men met in a small room in the stereotypical Yorkshire town of Halifax with a simple aim of talking through their issues and helping each other deal with their mental health. All in attendance agreed there was magic in that room that had to be shared. This was the start of a movement that has grown faster than anyone first involved could have ever imagined. Fast forward 8 years and ANDYSMANCLUB now has groups in over 260 locations, stretching from Plymouth to Aberdeen.

ANDYSMANCLUB takes its name from Andrew Roberts, a man who sadly took his own life aged 23 in early 2016. Andy's family had no inkling that he was suffering or struggling to the extent that he would do this, and as a result looked deeper into male suicide and men's mental health. They soon discovered that male suicide is the biggest killer of men under 54, with male mental health surrounded by well-ingrained cultural stigma in the UK.

Elaine Roberts and Luke Ambler are Andy's Mum and Brother-in-Law, together they came up with the idea of

ANDYSMANCLUB, a group where men aged 18 and above can speak openly about their mental health in a judgement-free, non-clinical environment.



Groups now operate nationwide and are completely volunteer-led, with the vast majority of group facilitators having first interacted with ANDYSMANCLUB when they came through the door as a service user. Following on from the COVID-19 pandemic, ANDYSMANCLUB created an online function via Google Meet. This follows the same model and enables men who cannot leave their home due to a variety of issues to join sessions. In the long-term, the charity aims to have a location within 30 minutes travel of any man in the UK.

To find out more, email info@andysmanclub.co.uk or head to www.andysmanclub.co.uk

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A new year, a new garden?

I have a series of articles planned for the Silkstone Newsletter, exploring garden design. From garden concept through to material choices, whether editing an existing garden, or starting a new one.

The Journey

A garden starts by thinking about the journey. No, I don't mean how to get to the bins or which route to take to the washing line (these come later), it's about how you want your garden to make you feel.

At first this seems a bit abstract, but imagine a world which didn't influence our feelings, super dull. How your garden makes you feel is key to a great space, linking deeply to our sub-conscious.

Envisage the tunnels on the Trans-Pennine Trail. For me, walking into these tunnels evokes a sense of confinement and darkness, I feel nervous. At the opposite end of the tunnel, I relax; light, open expanse and air. A simple journey highlighting how the space around us influences our emotions.

Applied to gardens, we can really enhance the overall experience by creating a journey. Now I'm not suggesting you put a train tunnel in the garden, but I am suggesting you work with the principle to create a varied and interesting space. An archway along a path can create a sense of confinement, before opening onto a border or lawn. A change in direction can create a new aspect of the garden, or perhaps a hedge to create a feeling of refuge when you sit down for your morning

coffee. These subtle elements play with our senses, creating a journey within the garden.

The first step is to consider how you want the garden to make you feel. Create a list of adjectives; enclosed, safe, peaceful, bold, adventurous, eye-catching. This approach moves away from the typical 'cottage garden' or 'contemporary garden' and gets to the deeper knowledge of how you want your garden to make you feel.

It is important not to cloud your inspiration with detail, the words hedge, fence, path, shouldn't factor here, that comes later. The key thing is to open your mind to your creativity.

An exercise to get working creatively is 'the 12 uses of a brick'.

Write down the 12 uses of a brick, pretty simple right? Or not!

Look back over your answers, and you should notice that the first few are straightforward; build a wall, as a door stop, a paper weight. However, once you get to the later uses, you'll notice that they get more creative; A (bad) Christmas present, hollow out to make a pencil pot.

Now do the same with your garden, building a list of adjectives. You want to feel; calm, peaceful, tranquil, still...., consider the feel in different garden areas, be creative, unconstrained, take inspiration from life experiences; I want to feel like I did when.... Re-visit the list and refine it, using each new word as inspiration for the next.

Next time, we will start to look at how to

put this into the garden, bringing in practicality, whilst keeping the feel, using Mass and Void.



The Silent Garden, Scampston Hall; A sense of ecclesiastical calm, or bare & empty? Designed by Piet Oudolf.



Fruit Tunnel; Ridding Park, Harrogate. Giving a sense of enclosure and direction. Designed by Matthew Wilson



Rousham; Walled Garden Entrance. Creating a feel of Intrigue and interest. Designed by William Kent.

MattB



www.bigginshillstudio.co.uk

Local Walks - CARE

Here is the walk for this issue. It's a pleasant stroll, about 3.5 miles, starting and ending at the Ring O'Bells in Silkstone.

You can pull out the walk from the centre pages (17-20) or if you prefer, use a digital version on your phone. If you want the digital version, you can find it at <https://www.komoot.com/tour/1803891288>. The full list of walks is at <https://www.komoot.com/user/silkstoneparishwalks/tours>

where we are a partner with Komoot. If you use Komoot, they include a free map of the larger local area when you sign up to a free account.

Please remember to follow Silkstone Parish Walks on Komoot , it helps by giving an idea of how much the Komoot app is being used. Any comments/ feedback, email us at silkstoneparishwalks@gmail.com

Engly - Steve Jones

Silkstone Parish Walks

Silkstone to Kine Moor



Walk Description

- A. The walk starts and finishes at the Ring'O'Bells public house
From the rear of the Ring'O'Bells take the old Waggon road towards Silkstone Cross.
View the reconstruction of a Waggonway coal truck at Silkstone Cross.
Cross the road to the petrol station.
- B. Take the footpath to the right of the petrol station: go past the pavilion and the cricket pitch and over the stile towards Woolley Manor Farm.
- C. At Woolley Manor Farm turn left along Blacker Green Lane.
- D. At Blacker Dam turn right across Kine Moor to High Field Plantation.
- E. At Kine Moor Lane turn left and continue to the fork.
- F. Take the left fork and after 20 yards take the footpath to the right across fields.
- G. Enter Lower Storrs Wood, crossing over a footbridge and then ascend to a wall where two paths cross. Turn left through woodland, continuing forward at crossing of paths to a second footbridge. A steep rise leads to fields and a footpath to Lower Coates Farm
- H. Turn left on Blacker Green Lane noting Silkstone Parish boundary stone set in the north side of the wall.
- I. Turn right onto footpath at Lindley Dyke and cross stile into field.
- J. Keeping Royd Hill Farm to your right follow the path rising steeply across the centre of the field to join with the road.
- K. At tarmac road (Cone Lane) turn left downhill past railway bridge and then fork right at next road junction onto Beacon Hill.
- L. At West View houses turn left on footpath then go to right of Hill Top Cottages and descend across fields and stile to Bank House Farm.
- M. Cross the Silkstone by-pass and Silkstone Beck on footpath to return to the Ring'O'Bells PH.



General Information

Distance - 3 ½ miles. Some sections can have wet, muddy or uneven ground and weather conditions can vary. Choose appropriate footwear and clothing.

Travel

For bus and train times telephone Traveline 01709 515151 open daily 7 am-10 pm.

Acknowledgements

K. Jowett and E. Hebden for the original route text.

Additional Information

- AB The Waggonway was a horse drawn railway constructed in 1809 to carry coal to the canal head 2 1/2 miles away at Cawthorne Basin. Some of the original stone sleepers can be seen on the footpath to the rear of the Ring'O'Bells.
- C Woolley Manor Farm is a Grade II listed building dating from the 17th Century.
- D Blacker Dam originally supplied water to three mills in Silkstone, which used corn, iron and bone. In the early 20th Century it was used for recreation including boating and fishing.
- H The Silkstone Boundary Stone at Lower Coates Farm depicts a hot air balloon which flew over the parish in the 19th Century.
- L Hill Top Cottages are the oldest dwellings in Silkstone Common. Note the Yorkshire stone roof, which was the commonly used material before the arrival of the railways in the mid 19th Century allowed the import of Welsh slate.
- M Bank House Farm was once a public house. The stocks date from 1405 and were restored in the late 20th Century.

Further Information

If you have any comments on this walk, encounter any difficulties en route or would like information on other walks in the Barnsley area including the Trans Pennine Trail then please contact The Rights of Way Team Tel: 01226 773355 or email publicrightsofway@barnsley.gov.uk

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Remembrance Day 2025

Poppy Appeal - Your opportunity to get involved



Yes, it's only springtime but we would like to start preparing for Remembrance Day 2025.

We invite you to get knitting, or crocheting, to prepare as many poppies as possible.

Working in collaboration with the Tuesday crafting club we would like to paint the villages red. Well actually, decorate our villages with handmade poppies as part of the Remembrance Day commemorations.

It's really not that difficult. You buy the yarn, we provide two patterns below. Get working and we will explain where the collection points will be in a later edition of the PC newsletter.

Knitting Pattern

You will need

- 4mm needles
- Double knitting any shade of red yarn
- Plus either black yarn for the centre or a large black or green button
- Darning needle



Body of the Poppy

Using the red wool, cast on 60 stitches

Rows 1 to 10 Knit 2, Purl 2

Row 11 Knit 2 together across the row

Row 12 Slip 1, Knit 2 together, pass the stitch over, across the row.

Break off the yarn and thread it back through the last stitch, pull tight and join the edges together.

Centre of the Poppy

Use the black yarn. Cast on 8 stitches. Knit a square, alternate knit row and purl row. Cut the yarn leaving a tail. The purl side is the upside. Run a line of stitches around the edges of the square. Pull the edges of the square into a round and tuck under.

Creating the Poppy

To finish off, stitch the centre to the body of the poppy.

Or alternatively use a black or green button.

Susan Dunwell : Silkstone CARE

Remembrance Poppy Crochet Pattern



You will need red and black yarn – DK works well and a 4mm crochet hook.

Black Yarn:

Ch6 and join with a ss into first Ch to make a loop.

Alternatively make a 'Magic Loop' which allows you to reduce the size of the centre hole – you can find instructions on internet.

Round 1

ch2 (counts as first dc) work 11dc into loop = 12 stitches

*remember if you want a larger black centre then work treble crochet instead of double crochet into the central loop.

Cast o8 and change to Red Yarn.

Round 2

Into any stitch cast on red and ch2 (counts as 1st dc) into same stitch work 1dc. *Work 2 dc into next stitch.



*Repeat to end working 2 dc into every stitch = 24 stitches.

Join with a ss into 2nd ch you initially started with.

Round 3

1st Petal. ch2 (counts as 1st dc), 2tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 1dc into next st.

2nd Petal. 1 dc into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 1dc into next st.

Repeat two more times = 4 petals = 40 stitches

Round 4

Into each tr stitch from previous round work 2 dc followed by a ss in between the two dc from previous round. Cast o8.

Please leave 3 inches/8cms of both black ends for fixing. Sew in red ends.

THANK YOU.+++ Karen Gorman



Have you ever visited the Huskar Community Rooms in Silkstone?

The Huskar Community Rooms were built in 2015 replacing the legacy Scout Hut behind the Asda in Silkstone; they are used by locals and folk from further afield.

The Charity that runs the Huskar Community Rooms is looking for new Trustees and in particular a Chair of the group to help facilitate and work alongside other trustees to promote,

grow and develop this valuable resource.

The role is a voluntary one, requiring a commitment of at least a couple of hours a month depending on your present availability and desire.

If you are interested in finding out more, please get in touch with the Clerk of the Council, Richard Bell on 07947 545504 or email at silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

The Importance of Knowing First aid and Basic Life Saving skills

Having been a first aider since the age of 9 years old as a member of St John's Cadets, First Aid skills are second nature to me. I am now teaching First Aid to local groups and volunteer youth groups, as I feel this is a worthy investment in our community.

Schools have the responsibility of enabling primary age children to understand how to summon help in an emergency. I would hope that secondary school students leave school with the ability to undertake basic lifesaving skills. From my experience and knowledge of young people, in my professional role and as a Scout Leader, I don't think they do!

I asked a group of young people why First Aid was important and their responses were considered - *'to help ill people get better', 'because we don't want to see our loved ones die without being able to do something to help'*

Having asked the same question to adults, the results are similar but from a different perspective, *'know what to do if he chokes...again', 'I look after my grandkids and would NEED to know what to do if the worst happened'* and *'You never know when you might need it, that's how accidents work!'*

Here are some examples of where adults and children have shared with me about how they have used their First Aid skills:

"When my Nannan had burnt her hand in the kitchen I made sure she held her hand

under the cold water for 20 minutes and covered it with cling film. She was very upset but said she has no scars because it was the right thing to do' (young person).

'One customer collapsed on way out of the shop and was brought back in to be looked after, I treated her for shock and she went to hospital, she made a full recovery from her issue and has recently had a baby. Made feel so good to know that' (adult).

It seems that people KNOW it's important but, based on rising costs and household bills, are struggling to find the finances and time to attend. So, as a local freelance trainer, I've started looking at access to funding to make significant reductions in the cost of courses. I want to help folk especially those in most need, and possibly free where grants and funds are available, I also offer discounts for those on relevant Benefits.

If you would like to know more, and talk to me about how I could support you as an individual or as a group, (e.g. Parent toddler - Walking pals - Sports team - Book club or even a local Gin club)

Please drop me an email or text to discuss what I may be able to do, to help you and your friends with the skills needed, should you find yourself in an emergency situation.

Rob Flewitt

Info@robblewitt.co.uk 07894563082

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Contact details for Ward councillors and MP

Ward Councillors

Robert Barnard:

cllrrobertbarnard@barnsley.gov.uk

Telephone: 01226 770770 (BMBC) or
01226 382861 (Home) or 07811 430948
(mobile)

Dr Alex Burnett:

cllralexburnett@barnsley.gov.uk

Telephone: 01226 770770 (BMBC) or
01226 772560 (work)

John Roberts

Email: cllrjohnroberts@barnsley.gov.uk

Telephone: 01226 770770 (BMBC) 01226
774486 (work)

The postal address for all three is the office
address: Barnsley MBC, P O Box 634,
BARNSELEY S70 9GG

MP

MP Dr Marie Tidball

marie.tidball.mp@parliament.uk

<https://www.marietidball.com/>

Newsletter deadlines and dates

Articles, events and adverts

If you:

- have a news item for the next issue
- want to update details for your organisation,
- advertise or amend an existing advert

please email Sue on sue@8highstreet.co.uk

The deadline for the next newsletter is
Friday 30th May 2025.

Our usual deadlines and distribution dates are below:

Deadline for articles	Distribution dates
Last week of February	Last week in March
Last week of May	Last week in June
First week of August	Last week in September
Last week of October	First week in December

Views expressed in in this Newsletter are those of the Contributors and not necessarily the views of the Parish Council.

Parish Council website and Facebook page

www.silkstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/SilkstoneParishCouncil>

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. The Parish Clerk is also the contact for the Facebook page

Parish Councillors

Chair of the Council - Meryl Liddell

Silkstone Common Tel: 790509

meryl.liddell@btinternet.com

Richard Leech (Vice Chair)

Silkstone Tel: 01226 791679

cllleech@silkstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Debra Smith

Silkstone Common Tel: 07443-221784

jd@jdblackhorse.me.uk

Derek Liddell

Silkstone Common Tel: 01226 790509

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Janice Wake

Silkstone Tel: 07540 957639

janicewake@btinternet.com

Jim Logan

Silkstone Tel: 07952 346446

stephenjameslogan@yahoo.com

Peter Millar

Silkstone Common Tel: 07970118679

pmsilkstone@gmail.com

Contact the Clerk

Silkstone Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Mr Richard Bell

8 The Meadows

Silkstone Common

S75 4SG

Tel : 07947545504

Email: silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting dates for Jan 2025 - Apr 2025

PC meetings are advertised in both village notice boards and on the website. They are held on the first Monday in the month in Silkstone Sports Pavilion unless stated otherwise.

Dates for the next four months are:

3rd March

7th April

5th May

2nd June

Would You like to Be a Parish Councillor and Help to Make the Parish Of Silkstone a Better Place to Live?

There are currently 2 councillor vacancies on Silkstone Parish Council.

We are looking for individuals with energy and passion, who want to make a positive difference and give back to their local community.

The work of a councillor can be extremely rewarding. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, please write to or email the parish council and include details of why you would like to

apply, together with the skills and experience that you feel you would bring to the role.

If you wish to apply, require any further information about qualification for being a councillor, or just want more information about the role, please contact Richard Bell, Clerk to the Council, on silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Addergram Solution : 13-Feb-25

Clues Answers

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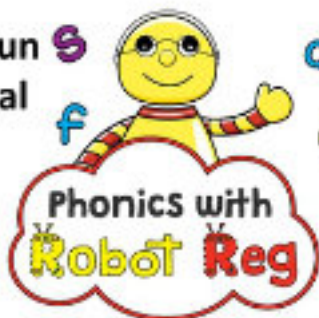
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Dates are:

March 6th & 20th

April 3rd & 17th

May 1st, 15th & 29th

June 12th & 26th

Silkstone – St Florent Twinning Organisation

The Silkstone – St Florent Twinning organisation has been going for 34 years. As outlined by Harold Garfield, the Chairman of Silkstone Parish Council in his welcome to the first French Group to visit Silkstone in 1992, the aim of the Twinning organisation was to promote friendships and greater understanding of the different cultures and to foster peace and goodwill at all times.

Our group of local individuals act on behalf of the Parish Council who are the signatories to the Twinning Agreement. The active members have changed over the years, many of the founding members have sadly passed away; others are unable to actively participate due to their failing health and age; some are still active and enjoying their interactions with friends both local and in the Vendée; new members have joined us over recent months and we are hoping that more will join. If the twinning partnership is to succeed in the future, we do need younger people to become involved.

As outlined in previous articles, the arrangements for the Twinning Visit in July this year are ongoing. We are still awaiting confirmation from St Florent of the numbers intending to visit, their mode of transport and any particular places they wish to visit.

Amongst the visitors will be a number of young people, teenagers who are supervised by two youth workers. I ask

that local people with teenagers consider welcoming a young person into their home for a few days. An excellent opportunity for students learning French to develop & practice their language skills.



I am aware this can be a frightening prospect and that you may feel you do not have the

capacity to have a visitor. Every support will be provided, if you are up and of to work early in the morning the young person staying with you can join another host family locally for breakfast and go on to the organised activities from there.

Group events/ meals will be arranged in the evenings for visitors and host families to socialise together. Host families are welcomed to participate in all activities and conversely there is no need to do so if they do not wish to.



It is not only young people who wish to learn a foreign language; indeed, I believe it is good for the more mature brain to learn a language. Personally, I have played at learning French on and off over the decades (I really should be better at it than I am). The upcoming visit has once

again focussed my mind on the subject. The twinning group have been in contact with Carl Dundas, a local language tutor, and some of us have arranged for a crash course of conversational French tuition. If you wish to be involved it may be possible to arrange further sessions.

We live in a wonderful area with many places to visit on our doorstep. Some of the activities we have suggested to our French friends are:-

Daytime

- Barnsley Town Hall and Mayors Reception
- Barnsley Football Club Oakwell (Current Captain, Mael de Gevigney, may be available to talk to group)
- National Coal Mining Museum
- Elsecar Heritage centre
- Yorkshire Air Museum (home of free French Squadron during WWII)
- RSPB Wetland Centre, Manvers
- Manvers Lake - Dragon Boat Racing, model boating
- Swimming at Barnsley Metrodome
- Meadowhall Shopping Centre
- Outdoor activities – Archery, axe throwing, air rifle shooting, team games, Eco Quad Biking

Evening

- Welcome Dinner at The Bells Silkstone
- Community Ceilidh Folk dance & Barbeque
- Games evening - pool, table tennis, darts, play your cards right etc
- Afternoon tea & Old Silkstone Band Concert in Vicarage Garden & Silkstone Church
- Group gatherings/ time with host

families

Jonathon & Sean at Broad Close Farm are very positive and are supporting the twinning group. It is proposed that the Community Ceilidh mentioned above will take place in the barn at Broad Close Farm (what better place for a barn dance). It is hoped that other community groups will join us in organising the event which will provide an opportunity for some fund raising in addition to being an excellent evening of fun and dance. The local scouts have enthusiastically embraced the idea and we are awaiting a response from Silkstone PTA & the Friends of Silkstone Common Junior & Infants School. If your local community group are interested in being involved, please email me on liz.waterlow@outlook.com

Members experience

My experience of Twinning with St Florent des Bois in the Vendee, France.

I can't lie, I was a bit dubious about hosting people I had never met. But I had got to know the English twinning group quite well by the time the French came to visit, and we had organised to have meals together and go on outings together. It actually turned out to be a really good way to meet people from Silkstone and Silkstone Common, we continue to see each other outside of Twinning.

The people we hosted were really lovely and very surprised at our way of life in England. They had never been out of France so there was a lot for them to discover. They were amazed at how big

our 'pints' of beer were; and loved our countryside with stone walls and old pubs. They kept photographing our black and white cows!

I enjoyed showing oË Yorkshire and realised how lucky and proud I am to live such a beautiful part of the world.

Over the years we've organised visits to York, Bridlington, gone down the mines in Wakefield. We've had afternoon tea in the vicarage gardens listening to the Old Silkstone brass band, how very English!

We've had barbeques in our back gardens with several families playing boules and 'Palet's' (a vendee outdoor game)



When we visited France there were the beaches, beautiful old stone towns and ports like La Rochelle; and of course the good food and wine!



We went to the most amazing firework display once on July 14th (Bastille Day)

which was accompanied by music. We had champagne with the firework display artist (quite famous apparently) afterwards in the VIP area. It was really rather special!



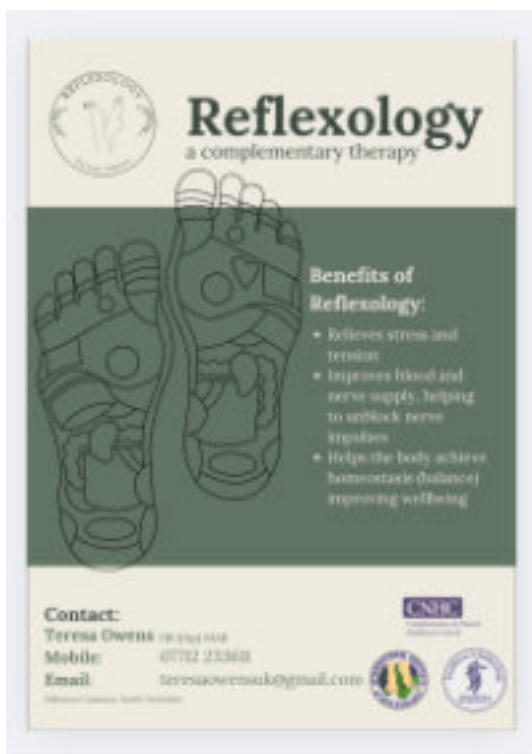
Overall, this is a really good way of learning about the culture of France and people that you simply wouldn't get if you stayed in a hotel or went camping.

I can highly recommend it.

Sophie Leech

I hope you have found the above interesting, if you are considering opening your home to a French visitor or just want more information please get in touch.

Liz Waterlow liz.waterlow@outlook.com mobile 079886264481.



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Local Organisations

General

Silkstone Common Good Companions

Provides companionship, entertainment and recreation for people aged 55+ who live locally. Meets fortnightly on Wednesdays 2-4pm in the Methodist Church Hall. New members are very welcome. Varied programme including speakers, trips and entertainers. Younger helpers urgently required. Annual subscription £20. For more information contact Bev Almond on 07502303470 or email bjalmond@hotmail.co.uk

Silkstone Luncheon Club for the over 60s

Meets every Monday at 12 o'clock in the The Station Inn, Silkstone Common. New members always welcome. Please call Stuart Moody Chairman 01226 49683 Or Stuart Jubb Secretary & Treasurer 01226 790704

Stainborough Rotary are the local Rotary covering the Parish.

We meet every Thursday at The Fairway Hotel, Dodworth at 7.30 pm. For details contact the Club Secretary , Ian Whittle 01484 3153386 or stainboroughrotary@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Janice Wake, Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator
janicewake@btinternet.com
07540957639

Silkstone Common Methodist Church

Currently closed for worship. Open for community use. Contact for Hall bookings Elvin Athey tel 01226 791999

Silkstone - St Florent Twinning Organisation

Contact Elizabeth Waterlow
email liz.waterlow@hotmail.co.uk
tel 07986264481

Tuesday Group

We meet in the Methodist Chapel, Ben Bank Road, Silkstone Common, every week on Tuesday 2 o'clock - 4.

Some of us enjoy doing crafts, such as sewing & knitting but others love to come for a cuppa ,cake and a good old natter.

Everyone is welcome.

Please just turn up or you can contact Mary (07942894029) for more information.

Silkstone/Silkstone Common Village News and Community Group

Facebook community group for locals

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/860075201163623>

New Swaine WI

Meet on 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.15pm in Hoylandswaine Village Hall and at additional times throughout the month. Contact:

Newswainewi@outlook.com

Julie Dyson (Secretary) on 07791379767

Silkstone Bell Ringers

We welcome visiting bands and can arrange ringing for weddings and other special occasions. Would you be interested in learning to ring or are you experienced and willing to help

Contact: Mrs J Jennings 01226790080
juliajennings27@gmail.com

Local Organisations

Sports/Activities

Silkstone United FC

DJ Walker 07730 039599

Yorkshire Regional Talent Centre

Under 6's – U 16's Contact Steve Fletcher
07990 805694

Silkstone United Cricket Club

Main Sponsor : Norcroft Electrical Ltd

Associate Sponsors : Barnsley Timber
Merchants, John Whitmore Electrical
Contractors, Plascompo Ltd

Contacts:

Junior Coordinator – Lee Willford 07931
298213 - lee.willford@gmail.com

SUCC Senior / Main Contact – Kevin Taylor
07462 877416

kevin.taylor@plascompo.com

Website : www.silkstoneutd.play-cricket.com

Facebook : [Silkstone UTD C.C.](https://www.facebook.com/SilkstoneUTD.C.C.)

Twitter : @SilkstoneCC

Silkstone Common Sports & Recreation Association

Secretary - Michael Winder

Tel - 07719392775

snappylad@outlook.com

Rising Sun Martial Arts

Karate / Kickboxing Thursday
6:00pm - 7:00pm (Children & Adults)

Silkstone Common Methodist Church
Hall, Ben Bank Road, S75 4PA

Chief Instructor: Master M.T. Middleton

Tel: 07904 700786

Web: www.risingsunmartialarts.co.uk

Barnsley BSAC Divers

Meets every Tuesday 7:30 onwards in the
Boardroom at the Metrodome.

Contact: Dave on 07783 291955 or visit
the website

www.barnsleybsacddivers.co.uk

Pilates, Power Pilates and Yoga

Silkstone Common Methodist Church

Tuesdays

Pilates 5.20-6.20 pm & 6.25-7.25 pm

Yoga Flow 7.30-8.30 pm

Thursdays

Power Pilates 7.15-8.15 pm

Contact (to book) Tracy (Fitness for all)
07398 238691

Music

Old Silkstone Band

Rehearsals - Silkstone Common
Methodist Church. Sunday 7pm - 9pm,
Wednesday 8pm - 10pm

Contact - Secretary Danni Brookes 07540
240703

Email oldsilkstoneband@outlook.com

Web site www.oldsilkstoneband.com

Facebook [Old Silkstone Band](https://www.facebook.com/OldSilkstoneBand)

X (Twitter) @OldSilkstone

Instagram [old_silkstone_band](https://www.instagram.com/old_silkstone_band)

TikTok @oldsilkstoneband

Millhouse Green Male Voice Choir.

Practice night is Mondays in Millhouse
Green Institute at 7.30. Secretary:
Richard Craven 07895 555113

Email: mgmvc@hotmail.co.uk

Web site www.mgmvc.co.uk

Local Organisations

Children

Silkstone Pre-School Playgroup Ltd

Ofsted registered offering Full Day Care, Sessional Care, Wrap around Care for children up to 11 years. Open Mon-Fri 7.30am to 4:30 pm

Email silkstonepreschoolpg@gmail.com

Shining Stars Out of School Club

We cater for children aged 4 – 11 years and provide high quality, affordable, reliable and accessible childcare from 7.30am to 9am and from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time.

Contact: email at shiningstars@silkstoneprimary.com

phone on 07591630348

Shake Rattle and Roll Children's Music Group

From babies up to pre-school children are welcome at our friendly group. Please also bring along mum, dad or carer to join in an hour of engaging musical fun, action and rhyme. We meet every Friday during term time at 10am in Silkstone Common Methodist Church. Refreshments for adults and children are provided. Attend just when you like. No booking or commitments.

Find out more <http://www.facebook.com/srrmusicgroup>

Contact: srrmusicgroup@gmail.com
Tracy 07905 421015

9th Barnsley (Silkstone) Scout Group: Huskar Community Rooms

Monday Scouts 19:00 - 20:30
Aged 10 - 14

Tuesday Cubs 18:30 - 19:30
Aged 8 - 10

Wednesday Beavers 18:30 - 19:30
Aged 6 - 8

All queries and membership to the Group Scout Leader rob.flewitt@barnsleyscouts.org.uk

Childminders

For details of registered childminders please ring Families Information Service on: 0800 034 5340.

Schools

Silkstone Common Junior & Infant School

Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common. Educates children 4-11 yrs. The school is interested in developing the use of the school outside normal school hours.

Contact: Mr Simon Tabbner 790471

Visit <http://www.silkstonecommonji.co.uk/>

Silkstone Primary School

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

Contact: Ms Sally Adams 790333

Visit <http://silkstoneprimary.com/>

Local Organisations

Environment & Local History

Silkstone CARE Group

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

Contact:

Susan Dunwell 07973 310925

susanwareham@talktalk.net

Karen Gorman 07788 185502

kgorman963@btinternet.com

Linda Marsh 07792321829

lmxx.13@gmail.com

Roggins Local History Group (Silkstone)

We collect, preserve and share photographs, stories and memories of Silkstone, Silkstone Common and the surrounding areas

Contact: Andy Horsfield

email rogginshistorygroup@gmail.com

01226 791929

Heritage Silkstone

Local and family history on your doorstep. We meet in Silkstone church every Wednesday between 10am to 2pm. AND Cutler Cafe on the last Saturday of every month between 10 am to 12 noon.

Website address

www.heritagesilkstone.co.uk .

Facebook page [Heritage Silkstone](#).

Contact:

Jane Raistrick, secretary, 01484 868254

Churches - The Benefice of West Barnsley

All Saints' and St James the Greater Silkstone with Stainborough 9.15 am 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month. Messy Church 4th Sunday in the month 4-6pm.

St John the Evangelist, Hoylandswaine 11.00am 2nd and 4th Sundays

St John the Baptist, Dodworth 9.15am 1st and 3rd Sundays. Holy Communion Service every Thursday 9.30am followed by a CoEe Morning

All Saints' Cawthorne 11.00am 1st and 3rd Sunday. Last Tuesday in the month 10.00am Holy Communion service

Benefice website:

<http://www.beneficewestbarnsley.org.uk>

Vicar: Rev Canon Keith Farrow DL
The Vicarage, 12 High Street
Silkstone, S75 4JN

Telephone: 01226 492294

For enquiries about Weddings, funerals and general enquiries please contact the Benefice Administrator:

Mrs Loraine Wills

Email beneficewestbarnsley@hotmail.com

Mob: 07973 381131

For Baptism enquiries contact the Benefice Baptism Coordinator:

Mrs Lynn Wilkinson

Email: lynnw1308@googlemail.com

Mob: 07876 750983